

Riyadh ready for Arab summit

ABU DHABI (AP) — Saudi Arabia is ready to host the long-delayed Arab summit conference "any time," Saudi Foreign Minister Prince Saud Al Faisal said Monday. Prince Saud, who arrived Monday on a short visit, told reporters: "Saudi Arabia has finalized the necessary arrangements to hold the Arab summit in Saudi Arabia... any time." He said he came to deliver a message from Saudi Arabia's King Fahd to United Arab Emirates President Sheikh Zayed bin Sultan Al Nahyan "on the latest developments in the region." He did not elaborate. But Arab diplomatic sources said the message dealt with security in the Gulf threatened by the war between Iraq and Iran. Prince Saud said "a minimum Arab consensus on major issues," including the Gulf conflict, was needed before a summit could be convened. Saudi Arabia and Jordan are also leading efforts to host an eight-year-old rift between Iraq and Syria. Arab League Secretary-General Chadi Klibi was expected in Saudi Arabia to discuss the outcome of a tour of Arab capitals discussing prospects for the proposed summit, Prince Saud said.

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Regent sends good wishes to France

AMMAN (Petra) — His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan, the Regent, sent a cable of good wishes on Monday to French President Francois Mitterrand congratulating him on the occasion of his country's National Day. The Crown Prince wished President Mitterrand continuing good health and happiness and the French people further progress and prosperity.

Senate to meet

AMMAN (Petra) — Upper House of Parliament (Senate) Speaker Ahmad Al Lawzi has called the Senate for meeting on Thursday.

JPMC to raise capital to JD 30m

AMMAN (Petra) — The Jordan Phosphates Mines Company (JPMC) has completed the necessary steps for raising its capital from JD 20 million to JD 30 million, a JPMC spokesman said Monday. The spokesman said the company would float 10 million new shares at a par value of JD 2.5 per share, including a surcharge of JD 1.5. The company's decision to raise its capital to JD 30 million was based on the findings of a feasibility study on the exploitation of Shidieh phosphates mines. The study showed that exploitation of these mines would put Jordan in a competitive position with other producers in the international phosphate market, the spokesman said.

Klibi pledges support for Kuwait

KUWAIT (R) — Arab League Secretary-General Chadi Klibi expressed Arab support on Monday for Kuwait's efforts to safeguard its security, the Kuwait News Agency (KUNA) said. He quoted Mr. Klibi as saying he told the Emir, Sheikh Jaber Al Ahmad Al Sabah, and other Kuwaiti officials that the Arab League backed "all efforts made to protect (Kuwait's) security and sovereignty." Kuwait is re-registering half its 22-tanker fleet under the American flag to benefit from U.S. naval protection in the Gulf. Mr. Klibi told KUNA he discussed with Sheikh Jaber Arab issues and peace efforts by the League's seven-member committee on the Gulf war. He also discussed the committee's future activities with Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Sheikh Sabah Al Ahmad Al Sabah, KUNA said. Mr. Klibi's talks with Kuwaiti officials, including Finance Minister Jassim Mohammad Al Khorafi, also touched on difficulties facing the League's organization, KUNA said. The League has been facing serious financial problems for more than a year. Mr. Klibi arrived here from Jordan.

Cossiga asks Gorla to form new government

ROME (R) — President Francesco Cossiga in a surprise move on Monday asked outgoing Treasury Minister Giovanni Gorla to try to form Italy's 47th post-war government and end a four-month political vacuum. Mr. Gorla, a 43-year-old Christian Democrat, is one of the youngest members of the outgoing cabinet of caretaker Premier Amintore Fanfani. He accepted the mandate as prime minister-designate with reserve — a standard Italian formula.

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Jordan Times

An independent Arab political daily published by the Jordan Press Foundation
جوردان تايمز يومية سياسية تصدر عن المؤسسة الصحفية الاردنية «الراي»



His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan opens the third conference of Jordanian expatriates on Monday (Petra photo)

Regent opens third conference of Jordanian expatriates

Crown Prince calls for continued efforts to boost joint Arab action

By Nermeen Murad
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — The third conference of Jordanian expatriates opened Monday at the Palace of Culture with a call for more efforts towards unity of Arab states to overcome hurdles that stand in the way of their development.

In an opening speech, His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan, the Regent, called on the nearly 650 Jordanians attending the conference to recognize the

importance of their role in advancing the goals of joint Arab economic action and in overcoming restraints and limitations on investment opportunities in the

Arab World.

The Crown Prince urged continued dialogue and support for institutions entrusted with coordinating joint Arab action. "The difficult economic stage which is currently being felt by many states in the area largely reflects the compiled but political issues that are so costly in economic, social and human terms," he said. This situation caused Jordan to "move to mobilize and invest those resources available to Jordan in accordance with the economic bases laid since the onset of the development of Jordan."

Prince Hassan also reviewed

the process of encouraging the private sector to participate in the development effort, thus benefiting both Jordan as a country in terms of productivity or providing job opportunities for the Jordanian labour force. He said such incentives also benefited individual investors who, with the added income, would be able to embark on new ventures and projects. "It is within this framework that the role of Jordanian expatriates becomes expandable and renewable," he said.

(Continued on page 4)

Iranians raid French freighter; Iraqis attack Farsiya Island

BAHRAIN (Agencies) — Iranian gunboats on Monday launched a midnight hit-and-run raid on a French container vessel in the northern Gulf, unopposed by the presence of Western and Soviet warships in the strategic waterway.

Gulf-based salvage operators said two high-speed launches circled the 21,111-gross-tonne Ville d'Anvers, strafing the vessel with machineguns and cannon fire for about 20 minutes.

The attack was just four days after the crew of an Iranian gunboat pumped 18 rocket-propelled grenades into the U.S.-owned supertanker Poonie in a daylight raid.

Salvage operators said Iran, using small Swedish-built motor launches manned by Revolutionary Guards, appeared to be stepping up attacks on shipping, despite increased patrols by Western and Soviet warships.

The latest raid — Iran's sixth since it resumed attacks on June 27 after a one-month lull — came as Washington prepared to escort Kuwaiti tankers re-registered to the U.S. flag.

One salvage operator said: "Iran is trying to prove that the United States and other navies

France warns Iran

PARIS (R) — France on Monday accused Iran of responsibility for an attack on a French ship in the Gulf, saying it would demand an official explanation from Tehran. The Foreign Ministry said in a statement the French charge d'affaires in Tehran had been ordered to make representations to the Iranian government over the attack on the container vessel Ville d'Anvers early Monday. The French envoy would also tell Iran that France would "exercise all its rights following this grave attack."

French President Francois Mitterrand and Prime Minister Jacques Chirac met Monday, and sources at the presidential palace said troubled relations between France and Iran were discussed.

Shipping sources say there are a total of some 15 U.S., Soviet, British and French warships in the Gulf, conduit for about one-sixth of the non-communist world's oil imports.

The captain of the Ville d'Anvers, Max Gangneur, told AP in a ship-to-shore radio interview

that the Iranians pounded his ship "for 20 minutes with guns, rockets and machinegun fire."

"They attacked twice, first for 10 minutes, then came back after a break of two minutes and fired on us for another 10 minutes," said the captain.

"The raiders intentionally were targeting the accommodation quarters where the crew were asleep," he said. "It is a miracle that we suffered no casualties."

The container ship had unloaded general cargo at Kuwait's Al Shuaiba port and was 160 kilometres off Kuwait en route to Dubai, when it was attacked at a point 65 kilometres east of Saudi Arabia's Ras Al Safaniyah oil terminal.

Marine salvage executives said that, judging by the location, the Iranian gunboats must have covered a 64-kilometre distance from Farsiya Island to attack the French ship.

Al Farsiya is one of several offshore bases used by the Revolutionary Guards to attack commercial ships in the Gulf waters.

Meanwhile Iraq said its warplanes penetrated strong Iranian

Soviet consular delegation begins visit to Israel

TEL AVIV (Agencies) — An eight-member Soviet consular delegation has arrived in Israel for the first official Soviet visit in over 20 years, an Israeli spokesman said Monday.

Spokesman Ebad Gol said the Soviet delegation arrived late Sunday night, and Israeli Radio reported they were staying in Tel Aviv.

Gol said no meetings had yet been scheduled for the delegation with Israeli officials, including Foreign Minister Shimon Peres.

Israel granted 90-day visas to the delegation, effective upon their arrival.

The delegation came to Israel to survey property of the Russian Orthodox Church and to look into the situation of Soviet passport holders.

However, Israeli officials have indicated they hope the visit of the delegation will serve to renew a dialogue between the two countries on Soviet Jewish emigration and the prospects for a conference on Middle East peace.

Members of the delegation on Monday visited the Finnish embassy annex in Tel Aviv officially named the "bureau of the protecting power" which handles Soviet interests.

Diplomatic sources said the leader of the consular mission was the deputy head of the Soviet Foreign Ministry consular section, Yevgeny Antipov, and the delegation included the deputy head of the ministry's Middle East desk.

Mr. Peres said Sunday he expected the Soviet Union would soon be in contact with Israel over the issue of Soviet participation in a proposed Middle East peace conference.

But asked on Monday if he would discuss his proposal for a U.N.-sponsored conference with the visiting Soviet diplomats, Mr. Peres replied: "The delegation will come. The delegation will be consular. We will not exaggerate its importance."

The foreign minister has said Israel expects to be allowed to send a delegation on a reciprocal consular visit to Moscow, although the Soviet Union has said there are no grounds for such a visit.

Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir didn't rule out meeting the Soviet delegation on Monday.

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King, Thatcher review Mideast developments and Iran-Iraq war

LONDON (Agencies) — His Majesty King Hussein held talks on Monday with British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher on the latest developments in the Middle East and the almost seven-year-old Iran-Iraq war.

The King and Mrs. Thatcher also reviewed efforts towards convening an international peace conference on the Middle East. The two leaders also discussed Jordanian-British relations and means for further enhancing bilateral cooperation, Petra added.

The meeting was attended by Prime Minister Zaid Rifai, who flew to London from Amman on Sunday, Armed Forces Commander-in-Chief Field Marshal Sharif Zaid Ibn Shaker and British Foreign Secretary Sir Geoffrey Howe.

The King and Her Majesty Queen Noor are currently on a private visit to Britain.

On Monday, Her Majesty the Queen was the guest of honour at a luncheon hosted by the St. John Foundation. The luncheon, held in Ascot, was attended by Princess Anne and other members of the British royal family and other prominent British personalities.



Meanwhile, Cairo newspapers reported on Monday that Egyptian Foreign Minister Esmat Abdul Meguid briefed the King over the weekend on the outcome of talks President Hosni Mubarak held with Israeli Foreign Minister Shimon Peres in Geneva last week.

Mr. Abdul Meguid was in Vienna on Monday holding talks with his Austrian counterpart Alois Mock.

Upon his return home from Geneva after his meeting with Mr. Peres, President Mubarak



said nothing new had emerged from the talks. However, Mr. Mubarak and Mr. Peres agreed that Mr. Abdul Meguid would visit Israel soon to follow up on efforts towards holding the called-for conference.

On Monday, a senior Israeli official Avraham Tamir had talks in Cairo with Mr. Mubarak's adviser Dr. Osama Al Baz on the proposed visit to Israel by Mr. Abdul Meguid. No details were available. Mr. Tamir was expected to return to Israel later Monday.

EC lifts ban on contacts with Syria, restates support for peace conference

COPENHAGEN (Agencies) — European Community (EC) foreign ministers on Monday agreed to resume high-level contacts with Syria and said an international conference was the only formula which would move Middle East peace efforts forward.

The ministers lifted an eight-month-old ban on ministerial contacts with Damascus but retained other sanctions, including an embargo on new arms sales, imposed last November when Syrian agents were accused of involvement in an alleged plot to blow up an Israeli airliner in London.

Danish Foreign Minister Uffe Ellemann-Jensen, the current EC president, told a press conference he would contact Damascus with a view to arranging a high-level meeting but added that he had no immediate plans to visit Syria.

British Foreign Secretary Sir Geoffrey Howe said Britain would not be restoring diplomatic relations with Syria, which were broken off because of the incident.

He said Syria's recent decision to order Palestinian extremist leader Abu Nidal out of Damascus was only a limited step to distance itself from "terrorism."

"This is welcome as far as it goes," he said. "It reflects the success of the concerted Western approach... the 12 have decided today to respond in proportion."

In a separate development, a West German government spokesman said Bonn had decided to release 146 million marks (\$76 million) of bilateral aid to Syria in response to the move against Abu Nidal.

That money was frozen last November when the U.S. charged that Syria was involved in a bomb attack on a West Berlin bar.

Syria has always denied involvement in acts of terrorism and many Western countries felt the ban on high-level contacts was an obstacle to convening a Middle East peace conference.

The EC ministers, at a regular meeting to coordinate their foreign policies, again stressed the need for such a conference to resolve the Arab-Israeli conflict.

"(It) seemed to them the only formula which could allow the peace process in the region to move forward," a joint statement said.

Reagan denies having been briefed on use of Iran funds in covert operations

ABOARD AIR FORCE ONE (AP) — President Ronald Reagan's top spokesman said Monday that Mr. Reagan was never briefed on his aides' plans to use Iranian arms sale profits for covert operations.

Marlin Fitzwater said a memo cited by the chairman of the Senate investigating committee does not support such an allegation.

Senator Daniel Inouye said Sunday that a memo written by Oliver North notes that then-National Security Adviser John Poindexter told Mr. Reagan of plans to use the arms sale profits for covert operations around the world.

The memo was dated Sept. 15, 1986, more than two months before Mr. Reagan said he learned of the fund diversion.

Fitzwater declined to say if Mr. Reagan had ever seen the memo. But he insisted the president had never been briefed on any diversion of funds.

Representative Richard Cheney, a Republican, "I would suggest the president could have read it cover to cover and never had any knowledge whatsoever of a diversion."

Mr. Inouye, an opposition Democrat, responded that Lieutenant-Colonel North had testified that arms sale profits were to pay for the covert initiatives described in the memo. "I did not say if the president was briefed, I said we would have to ask the admiral. (Poindexter), first," he said.

Mr. Inouye also said that he mentioned the memo Sunday "to make it very clear to the administration that they will have to answer this. I did not want to suddenly thrust this in their faces. ... I thought I was playing it rather fair with the administration."

Fitzwater contended that the memo discusses covert operations but not the diversion of money. He said Mr. Reagan has never been briefed on diverting "any or all funds."

"We're confident that when Poindexter testifies he will corroborate what the White House says," Fitzwater said.

In continuing testimony on Monday, Col. North said there was no conflict in Mr. Reagan trading arms for hostages with Iran a month after he called Tehran an outlaw state run by lunatics and criminals.

The marine lieutenant colonel, fired last November for his role in

the Iran-contra scandal, denied the deal went against the president's policy of not dealing with terrorists.

Col. North, back on the witness stand at the congressional Iran-contra hearings after four days of testimony last week, was asked by Sen. George Mitchell about Mr. Reagan's "private policy that directly contradicted his public policy."

Mr. Mitchell, a Democrat, quoted from a speech Mr. Reagan made in July 1985, one month before sending the first U.S. arms to Iran through Israel, in which the president called Iran "an outlaw state run by the strangest collection of misfits, looney tunes and squalid criminals since the advent of the third reich."

Col. North, 43, said: "I see no inconsistency with the characterization of the Iranian government."

"But what I think is important is that he clearly attempted to establish contact... with pragmatic or moderate or less unreasonable elements of the Iranian government."

Mr. Reagan had said the United States sold Tow anti-tank and Hawk anti-aircraft missiles to Iran in hopes of wooing "moderates" and establishing a long-term relationship.

He later conceded the initiative developed in a swap of the weapons for U.S. hostages held by pro-Iranian elements in Lebanon.

Kidnappers reportedly increase ransom demand for W. Germans

BEIRUT (AP) — The kidnappers of two West German hostages held in Lebanon have raised the ransom demand for their release from two million deutsche mark (\$1.1 million) to over 30 million (\$16.6 million), the Beirut newspaper An Nahar reported Monday.

The independent daily cited no source for its brief report which said only that: "The price of the two German hostages kidnapped in Lebanon has risen, since negotiations began for their release, from two million marks to more than 30 million marks."

The West German hostages are Rudolf Cordes, 53, abducted in mainly Muslim west Beirut on Jan. 17, and Alfred Schmitt, 46, kidnapped on Jan. 20.

An Nahar's report was the first mention in the Lebanese media of ransom negotiations for their release.

A group calling itself holy fighters for freedom said in a statement last Wednesday that it negotiated secretly with West Germany to try to swap the two Germans for Lebanese Ali Hamadei, a Lebanese Shi'ite Muslim suspected terrorist held in Frankfurt, who is also wanted

in the United States for murder. Mr. Hamadei is held on charges of air piracy and for the murder of a U.S. navy diver aboard an American TWA airliner hijacked to Beirut in June 1985.

The West German government has rejected a request for Mr. Hamadei's extradition to the United States for trial there.

Meanwhile, Omar Aleem, assistant secretary-general of the Union of Arab Journalists, called in an article published Monday for the appointment of an international journalistic panel to investigate the kidnapping of American journalist Charles Glass in Beirut last month.

"I have known Glass for years as a defender of the causes of justice and truth," said Aleem, a Syrian-nationalised Sudanese, in an article in the Beirut newspaper As Safr.

He also proposed that a committee of intellectuals and jurists should first verify a videotape released last Thursday by Glass' kidnappers in which the American journalist said he was a spy in Lebanon for the U.S. Central Intelligence Agency (CIA).

Aleem said a panel made up of representatives from Arab, regional and international journalistic associations should then be set up to investigate various aspects of Glass' abduction and that of other foreign journalists held hostage in Lebanon.

Among the other kidnapped journalists is Terry A. Anderson, chief Middle East correspondent for the Associated Press, who is the longest-held captive in Lebanon.

Anderson, 39, of Lorain, Ohio, was kidnapped in west Beirut on March 16, 1985.

Three French journalists are also among the 25 foreigners missing and believed kidnapped in Lebanon. They are Jean-Paul Kauffmann, 42, of the weekly magazine L'Evenement Du Jeudi; Jean-Louis Normandin, 34, lighting engineer for France's Anten-

ne-2 television network; and Roger Augue, 31, a freelance journalist and photographer.

They were abducted respectively on May 22, 1985, March 8, 1986 and Jan. 13, 1987.

John McCarthy, 31, of Barnet, north London, a journalist for the London-based Worldwide Television News (WTN), was kidnapped on April 17, 1986.

Aleem proposed for membership of the investigation panel the Prague-based International Press Association, the Brussels-based Union of International Journalists, the Union of Latin American Journalists, the Union of Arab Journalists, the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation (UNESCO), the International Labour Organisation, plus any other group chosen by Glass' kidnappers.

He suggested that the panel should be under the sponsorship of Sheikh Mohammad Hussein Fadlallah, spiritual guide of the Iranian-backed Shi'ite Hezbollah militant faction, an umbrella group for various extremist factions believed to be holding foreign hostages.

2 Arabs charged with attempt to kill Siniora

TEL AVIV (AP) — A military prosecutor has charged two Palestinians from the occupied West Bank with trying to assassinate a prominent Palestinian newspaper editor.

Mahmoud Ahmad Yousuf, 26, and Sadek Ahmad Salah Naze, 24, both from the town of Qalqilya, were charged with conspiring early last year to kill Hanna Siniora, editor of the Arab East Jerusalem daily Al Fajr.

Mr. Siniora, 48, known as a political moderate, provoked controversy last month when he announced his plan to become the first Arab to run in Jerusalem's municipal elections, scheduled for November 1988.

Asked about the charges Sunday at a military court in Lod, near Tel Aviv, Mr. Siniora said in a telephone interview, "I was not aware of this. It is the first I have heard about such a plot."

A charge sheet prepared by military prosecutor Reuben Wolf said the two Palestinians were caught following an unrelated incident last February when a bomb they were carrying exploded in their car outside a hospital in Kfar Saba, near Tel Aviv.

The explosion killed a third man in the car, but Yousuf and Naze escaped. They were arrested several days later, and in the course of the ensuing investigation were discovered to be "spying on (Siniora) with the intention of assassinating him," the charge sheet said.

Arafat offers to accept U.N. trusteeship

BAHRAIN (AP) — Yasser Arafat was quoted Monday as saying he would accept a six-month U.N. trusteeship over the Israeli-occupied Arab territories and a referendum in the West Bank and the Gaza Strip.

The London-based Mideast Mirror daily newsletter said the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) chairman also would agree to the stationing of U.N. troops on the borders between Israel and the desired Palestinian state.

Mr. Arafat hinted this on the convening of an international Middle East peace conference, to be attended by all parties directly involved in the Arab-Israeli conflict and the five permanent members of the U.N. Security Council.

"We are in favour of the United Nations taking charge of the occupied territories during which a popular referendum will be organised," Mr. Arafat said in a question-and-answer exchange with Afif Safah, a Palestinian scholar at Harvard's Centre for International Affairs.

Sharon urges Shamir to fire Peres

TEL AVIV (AP) — Industry and Trade Minister Ariel Sharon called on the government to fire Foreign Minister Shimon Peres because of Peres' attempts to convene an international Middle East peace conference.

Sharon's remarks to the right-wing Herut Party's Central Committee Sunday night heated up tensions in Israel's multiparty government, which is sharply divided over the proposed conference.

Uzi Baram, secretary of Peres' Labour Party, immediately responded, telling Israel Army Radio Monday that Sharon's comments meant there was "no choice but to suggest early elections."

Sharon told the 900-member committee, "We must prevent the foreign minister from continuing his actions which are doing heavy damage to Israel... if he doesn't stop, he must be fired from the government."

Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir, chairman of the Herut Party which is the dominant force in the right-wing Likud Bloc coalition, also attacked the conference plan, calling it "an idea of suicide and surrender."

Shamir said the idea was tantamount to Israel "offering its neck

for its destruction as a state... if he did not respond to the demands to fire Peres.

Peres, who sought twice to fire Sharon when he was prime minister in 1984 and 1985, rejected the threats outright. "I didn't get my mandate from Ariel Sharon. He isn't the person to fire me," Peres said in a radio interview.

Peres has unsuccessfully sought to bring down the 34-month-old coalition government and force early elections to get a mandate for Israel's participation in an international conference.

The latest public opinion polls show a steady drop in the popularity of Peres and his Labour Party since he lost a showdown cabinet vote in May on the international conference plan.

Peres indicated he may be changing his mind about ending the coalition, especially in light of reports that Shamir may be able to form a government without Labour and avoid early elections.

"Maybe dismantling the government will end the peace process," Peres told the radio.

The proposed conference calls for the participation of the five permanent members of the United Nations Security Council — the United States, Soviet Union,

China, Britain and France — who would mediate a peace settlement between Israel and the Arab states.

Shamir and Sharon reject the idea, claiming such a wide forum would put heavy pressure on Israel to withdraw from territories occupied by Israel since the 1967 Middle East war. They claim the captured land is an integral part of "greater Israel."

Sharon said Western-backed efforts to convene the conference have "forged a dangerous and strange alliance before our eyes between the PLO (President Hafez) Assad of Syria, one of Israel's most extreme enemies," and Israeli cabinet ministers.

Sharon also challenged Shamir unsuccessfully at the party meeting, by trying to form a new political committee that could override Shamir's decisions.

Sharon, 58, was elected head of the party's Central Committee in March and has made public his desire to succeed Shamir. He has made a comeback since being forced to resign as defence minister during Israel's Lebanon invasion when he was blamed for failing to prevent the massacre of Palestinians by Israeli-allied Falangist militiamen.

Syrian minister returns from Tehran

NICOSIA, Cyprus (AP) — Iranian Foreign Minister Ali Akbar Velayati said Monday that ties between his country and Syria are "ever on the increase, despite the malicious propaganda of their common enemies," Iran's official Islamic Republic News Agency (IRNA) reported.

Mr. Velayati was speaking to reporters after seeing off Syrian Foreign Minister Farouk Al Sharaf at Tehran's Mehrabad Airport at the end of a one-day visit said the agency, which is monitored in Nicosia.

Syria is the main ally of Iran in its nearly 7-year-old war against Iraq.

Mr. Sharaf's visit came amidst persistent reports that Arab mediators were trying to reconcile Syria and Iraq which have been at loggerheads for over a decade, even though they are ruled by rival wings of the Arab Baath Socialist Party.

IRNA said that during the visit Mr. Sharaf had conferred with Mr. Velayati, Prime Minister Hussein Musavi and President Ali Khamenei, to whom he delivered a message from Syrian President Hafez Assad.

The content of the message was not revealed.

IRNA quoted the Syrian minister on arrival in Tehran Sunday as

renewing Damascus' support for Iran in the Gulf war.

It quoted Mr. Velayati at the same time as saying that the two countries agreed that Iran should continue the war until the fall of Iraqi government, and prevent the Iran-Iraq conflict from spreading to other parts of the region.

Mr. Assad's message to Mr. Khamenei followed last Monday's visit to Damascus by Vernon Walters, the U.S. ambassador to the United Nations, who is on a world tour to rally support for a negotiated settlement of the protracted Gulf war.

Sudan seeks to locate four foreign hostages

KHARTOUM (AP) — The Sudanese government has assured the United States that it is doing everything possible to locate and free the three Americans and one Briton who were kidnapped in the south last Monday, a leading newspaper has said.

Daily English-language Sudan Times quoted a government source as saying that security officials hoped to locate the four hostages as soon as possible, but added that government troops wanted to avoid close pursuit of the rebels to avoid any harm to

the abducted persons.

After the kidnappings, a high ranking security source who refused to be identified by name said the rebel group Sudan People's Liberation Army (SPLA) were responsible. However, the government has since referred to the kidnappers as "outlaws" and the SPLA has said that because of lack of communication, they are not sure whether it is their men or not who kidnapped the four.

Three of the victims, two American teachers and one British nurse, work for ACROSS, the

Nairobi-based Association of Christian Resource Organisations Serving Sudan. They were identified as Steve Anderson, who was born in Minneapolis, Minnesota, Katherine Taylor, 32, of Johnson City, Tennessee, and 29-year-old British nurse Heather Sinclair.

The fourth victim was identified as Mark Nikkel, an American Episcopal lay missionary.

The southern rebels took up arms against the government in 1983. They are demanding economic and administrative reforms as well as more autonomy.

U.S. vulnerable to attack, Iranian envoy says

ATHENS (R) — An Iranian envoy Monday warned against foreign interference in Iranian affairs in the Gulf and said Americans were vulnerable to outside attack.

"As long as no one interferes with our interests the Gulf is going to be a safe area," Iranian Ambassador Ahmad Ajalloeian told a news conference.

The conference was held to

denounce the alleged use of chemical weapons in the Gulf war. But when asked about the increased U.S. naval presence in the Gulf, the envoy said:

"The presence of the American navy in the Gulf is to show support for a number of Arab regimes in the area. We hope nothing will take place in the Gulf."

"The United States is a super-

power and has a lot of capability but it can be vulnerable to outside attack," he added.

Asked about Beirut newspaper reports that some American hostages taken in Lebanon had been transferred to Iran, the ambassador said: "We generally are against the taking of innocent people as hostages."

"This is something our religion is against."

Iranian envoy seeks explanation over Geneva incident

GENEVA (R) — An Iranian envoy demanded an explanation from France on Monday about an incident at Geneva airport in which French customs police are alleged to have beaten one of his colleagues about the head and body.

Diplomat Mohsen Amizadeh, described as an attaché at Iran's embassy in Paris, was taken to hospital on Saturday after being stopped by police in the section of the airport where French-bound travellers are checked.

Nasrollah Kazemi Kamyab, Iran's ambassador to the United Nations in Geneva, told reporters on Monday that Mr. Amizadeh had been asked to open his bags and refused because he was a diplomat.

"Then, as he told us, they took him to a room and then French police injured him. He was beaten in his head and some parts of the body, and is under treatment," the ambassador said.

"It is requisite on the French Foreign Ministry that they explain the reason for this incident. We are waiting for their argument."

Mr. Amizadeh was discharged from hospital early on Sunday and then readmitted the same night complaining of pain.

Pierre-Francois Unger, chief physician of emergency services, told Reuters Mr. Amizadeh's condition was not critical.

Poverty creeps up on Lebanon after 12 years

By Michael Kuli Reuter

BEIRUT — With thin and wrinkled hands, 88-year-old Wardet Ramez searched slowly through the rubbish bin looking for scraps to eat.

"We used to have fields of lettuce, a house, servants. Now look what I have collected," she said, showing a handful of thyme. "This is now our food."

At dawn, at dusk, singly and in families, Lebanon's poorest comb rubbish heaps for food and ragged clothes in small but growing numbers unthinkable even a year ago.

There are still many rich Lebanese, but after 12 years of civil war, an economic crisis is finally catching up with a society that used to boast that barrow-boys owned cars.

Lebanon recently asked the World Food Programme (WFP) to help feed 1.25 million needy Lebanese — more than a third of the population — Acting Prime Minister Selim Hoss told Reuters.

"No Lebanese were that poor before... they are now a considerable portion of Lebanese society," said Amin Hajji, a professor of economics at the American University of Beirut (AUB).

The failure of the economy is epitomised by the 97 per cent collapse of the dollar value of the Lebanese pound since it started its steep decline in February 1984.

Inflation is running at an estimated annual 170 per cent so far this year, a level not seen in Lebanon for several decades, and is certain to soar further.

Lebanon imports 80 per cent of

its consumption, while the dollar value of the average salary has fallen from an annual \$5,300 in 1975 to some \$600 today.

Remittances from abroad have also fallen, from some \$2.4 billion in 1981-82 to an expected \$600 million this year, the independent An Nahar newspaper said.

Unofficial estimates put unemployment at 30 per cent, but for those in work, the official minimum wage is a bitter joke at 4,300 pounds (\$27) a month.

"On the outside Lebanon may look the same, the traffic, the buildings, the rich in new cars — but inside those buildings the change is often dramatic," said the son of a priest.

People queue for hours at mosques and churches to receive handouts of cheese and other dairy products. New foreign fashions loved by Lebanese are giving way to Lebanese and home-made clothes. Thieves and daylight street robberies are widespread.

Servants from the Indian subcontinent are leaving and poor Lebanese are taking their place. In a small country where the family is all-important, the Islamic orphanage said it received 17 abandoned infants in the past three months, some of them found in piles of rubbish.

The orphanage said the increase from four such infants found in the previous three months showed a "collapse in social values... extreme poverty and much family suffering."

Priests say marriage proposals are now frequently conditional on the wife working and not having children for a few years. Some cannot even afford a traditional

wedding, let alone a room of their own furniture.

Malnutrition has led to a decline in Lebanese children's intelligence and some are even fainting from hunger or eating paper in classrooms, senior Lebanese academic George Fakhri said in a recent public lecture.

Desperation to feed children can know no bounds, despite increasing foreign food aid.

"I bind my eyes with a black tie so that I do not see my shame. Then I get under men to win their money," said tearful young wife with a two-year-old child.

"My husband does his best to provide us with food and shelter but it is not enough. I have to help him. I found no other way, May God one day forgive me," she said.

Newspaper editorials and caricatures depict the anguish of Lebanese at the economic collapse.

In fact, diplomats and Lebanese leaders say the huge expense of arms and ammunition in local terms has helped consolidate a three-month lull in civil war fighting.

"It's not in the Lebanese nature to rebel because they are poor. Anyway there is no such leader for such people," said one ambassador. "They ask their cousin in Australia for another hundred dollars. They'll get by somehow."

But on a recent television show, shouted insults and blame showed a new depth of feeling among the middle classes, who have seen their formerly European standard of living melt away.

TV & RADIO

JORDAN TELEVISION

Tel: 73111-19

PROGRAMME ONE

15:30 News Summary

15:35 Cartoons and children's programme

16:10 Secret of the Rail Road

16:15 Different Smiles

16:20 Religious Programme

16:25 Soccer

16:30 Local programme

16:35 Programme Review

16:40 News in Arabic

16:45 Arabic Series

16:50 Songs from the movies

16:55 Documentary on Jerusalem

17:00 News summary in Arabic

17:05 Documentary

PROGRAMME TWO

17:30 Embarkment Immediate

17:35 News in French

17:40 French varieties

17:45 News in Hebrew

17:50 Varieties

17:55 News in Arabic

18:00 Double Trouble (comedy)

18:05 Classical Music

18:10 Ghara (detective series)

18:15 News in English

18:20 The Unknown War (documentary)

18:25 Open All Hours (comedy)

RADIO JORDAN

88.1 KHz, AM 99.1 KHz, FM

& partly on 95.0 KHz, SW

Tel: 73111-19

07:00 Light Music

07:30 News

08:00 Morning Show

08:30 News Summary

09:00 News Summary

09:30 News Summary

10:00 News Summary

10:30 News Summary

11:00 News Summary

11:30 News Summary

12:00 News Summary

12:30 News Summary

13:00 News Summary

13:30 News Summary

14:00 News Summary

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20:00 News Summary

20:30 News Summary

21:00 News Summary

21:30 News Summary

22:00 News Summary

22:30 News Summary

23:00 News Summary

23:30 News Summary

24:00 News Summary

WHAT'S GOING ON

TODAY'S EVENTS

EXHIBITIONS

* An art exhibition by Omar Bissol at the Housing Bank Centre's gallery (until July 18).

* Paintings exhibition by Refat Al Hariri at the French Cultural Centre (until July 23).

* An exhibition of photographs on the history and development of Beirut City at the Soviet Cultural Centre (until July 16).

VIDEO

* The ABC News at 7:00 p.m. at the American Centre.

JERASH FESTIVAL

(July 8-31)

Tuesday 14/7/87

* South Theatre:

7:30-9:30 — Royal Jordanian Folk Troupe

9:30-11 — Tunis Folk Group

* Sound & Light:

8-9 — Children's Play Ammo Amin

* Athletics Steps:

8-9 — Polish Puppet Theatre Troupe

* Forum:

6-7 — Jordan Armed Forces Band

7-9 — W.G. Band & Folk Group

9-11 — China Aerobics Troupe

CULTURAL CENTRES

Royal Cultural Centre .. Tel. 6610267

American Centre .. 644371

British Council .. 6361478

French Cultural Centre .. 637009

Geometric Institute .. 641993

Soviet Cultural Centre .. 642403

Spanish Cultural Centre .. 639777

Turkish Cultural Centre .. 665195

Haya Art Centre .. 6671816

Y.W.C.A. .. 641793

Y.W.M.C.A. .. 664251

Amman Municipal Library .. 637111

Univ. of Jordan Library .. 843555

MUSEUMS

"Children's Heritage and Science Museum" Fun and knowledge for all ages, plus a small planetarium at the Haya Arts Centre. Open all week 9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. and 3:30 p.m. - 6:00 p.m. Closed on

Jordan to attend int'l AIDS conference

AMMAN (J.T.) — Jordan will participate in an international conference on combating AIDS (Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome) which will open in Paris on July 22.

Health Minister Zaid Hamzeh received a formal invitation from the French government to participate in the two-day conference.

A Health Ministry spokesman said the delegates, mostly medical specialists, will discuss methods of combating the disease and the legal, political, ethical and economic aspects pertaining to the prevention of the disease's spread.

Last month, Dr. Hamzeh said two cases of AIDS were discovered in Jordan, one of them fatal. One of the victims, a Jordanian Arab woman, had contracted the illness through a blood transfusion abroad. She arrived here May 19 for a bone marrow transplant and died two days later. The autopsy showed she had AIDS.

The second case involved a 33-year-old Frenchman of Jordanian origin who contracted the disease in France and whose family brought him back for treatment in Jordan. Dr. Hamzeh has since informed the World Health Organisation (WHO) of both cases.

On April 18, Dr. Hamzeh said Jordan was free of AIDS but admitted there were four carriers of the AIDS virus, but added that they should not be considered infected by the disease.

Soviet delegation begins Israel visit

(Continued from page 1)

delegates whose visit he said was "an initiative of the Soviet Union."

Asked about the possibility of a meeting, Mr. Shamir told Israel Television: "I still don't know anything about their activities here. We will see." He did not elaborate.

The Jerusalem Post quoted political sources as saying that there was a "clear hardening" of the Soviet position on the Middle East. The change in Soviet position, according to the sources, emerged at a meeting last week between U.S. envoy Richard Murphy and Soviet Foreign Ministry official Vladimir Polyakov.

U.S. Ambassador to Israel Thomas Pickering and special ambassador Wat Cluett, who attended the talks at Mr. Murphy's side, briefed Peres and Prime Minister Shamir at length on Sunday about the Soviet attitude.

According to the sources, the Soviets are now demanding that Israel undertake, before an international conference for the Middle East is convened, to withdraw to the 1967 borders. Mr. Polyakov also said that the Soviets believe that both U.N. Security Council Resolution 242 and the right of the Palestinians to self-determination should be the basis of the negotiations at the conference.

The sources said that the Soviets insist that the PLO participate in the conference and on an Israeli undertaking to withdraw to the 1967 frontiers were "old hat." Only after the Shultz-Shevardnadze talks would the Soviet position be clear.

Fayez returns from meetings in Syria

AMMAN (Petra) — Speaker of the Lower House of Parliament Akf Al Fayez, who is also chairman of the Arab Parliamentary Union (APU) returned home from Damascus Monday at the end of a six-day official visit to Syria.

In an arrival statement, Mr. Fayez said he reviewed with Syrian officials the situation in the Middle East, the Palestinian question, the Iran-Iraq war, and the Lebanese crisis. He added that the Jordanian and Syrian views on these issues, as well as the unification of Arab political efforts in both the Arab and international arenas, are identical.

Mr. Fayez also said he discussed with the Syrian People's Council Speaker Mahmoud Al Zu'bi activities of the APU and its future programmes.

Concerning the APU, Mr. Fayez said it has been decided to reconsider some of the APU articles, with a view to introducing amendments to its charter. For this purpose, he added, the chairman of the External Affairs and Legal Committees of the Lower House will visit Damascus later to discuss proposed amendments in preparation for submitting them to the APU board meeting in October in Tunis.



Akf Al Fayez, speaker of the Lower House of Parliament, returns to Jordan from Syria with his accompanying delegation (Petra photo)

October in Tunis.

The board will attempt to develop a unified pan-Arab parliamentary stand concerning all issues on the agenda of the International Parliamentary Union (IPU), which will convene in Bangkok, the capital of Thailand, in November.

During his visit, Mr. Fayez met with Syrian President Hafez Al Assad, Syrian Vice President Abdul Halim Khaddam, Syrian Prime Minister Abdul Raouf Al Kasm, Speaker of the Syrian People's Council Mahmoud Al Zu'bi and Syrian Interior Minister

Mohammad Ghabbash.

Mr. Fayez was accompanied on his visit to Syria by a delegation comprising of chairmen of the External Affairs Committee, Occupied Territories Affairs Committee and Director of Parliamentary Affairs in the Lower House Zaid Zureiqat.

Diarrhoea kills 5 million children under age of five annually — Hamzeh

By a Jordan Times Staff Writer

AMMAN — Health Minister Zaid Hamzeh said that diarrhoea is one of the major killers of children in the developing world, responsible for the death of five million children under five years of age annually.

Dr. Hamzeh was addressing participants in a symposium on controlling diarrhoea-related diseases in Jordan, held in preparation for the national oral rehydration campaign due to start later this week.

Diarrhoea-related diseases tops list of child health problems nationwide. Epidemiological studies undertaken over the last two years have shown that on the average a child gets two episodes of diarrhoea every year, Dr. Hamzeh added.

The symposium organised by the Ministry of Health in cooperation with the United Nations

Children's Fund (UNICEF), is aimed at making people aware of the gravity of the problem posed by diarrhoea and of the availability of a new technology for treating diarrhoea, by using a oral rehydration solution made up of sugar, salt and water. The solution is now produced in Jordan by the drug manufacturing companies, Hikma, in cooperation with Ministry of Health and UNICEF.

The new product, known as Aqualas, is now available at local markets and health facilities. It will replace the expensive treatment of diarrhoea taking intravenous or hy drugs or antibiotics which can have health complications. The new product can effectively deal with 90 per cent of the severe diarrhoea cases, Dr. Hamzeh said.

He pointed out that the Ministry of Health drew up an integrated plan for control of di-

arrhoea in 1982, in cooperation with UNICEF and the World Health Organisation (WHO), with the aim of reducing incidences of child death caused by diarrhoea.

Also speaking at the symposium was UNICEF's regional director for the Middle East and North Africa, Richard Reid, who voiced appreciation for the Ministry of Health's efforts in the field of primary health care. Mr. Reid commended Jordan's efforts to control diarrhoea through the launching of this national oral rehydration campaign.

Participants at the symposium discussed a number of research papers on treatment of diarrhoea and diarrhoea-induced dehydration, and the use of oral rehydration solutions internationally.

Taking part in the one-day symposium were a number of medical specialists from Jordan and representatives for UNICEF.

Scout conference tackles papers

AMMAN (Petra) — The Second National Conference on Scout Movement and Girlguides in Jordan resumed Monday at the Royal Cultural Centre during which participants discussed various working papers.

Ministry of Youth Secretary General and Conference Chairman Mohammad Jameel Abu Al Tayeh submitted a working paper on youth movement and its role in the preparation of youth. The paper touched upon the present situation of Arab youths and their needs and called for the studies on the political, national and social aspects of Arab youth life.

With respect to programmes that help prepare youths to contribute to community development,

Moss prompts WAJ to close Deir Alla well

AMMAN (J.T.) — Secretary General of the Water Authority of Jordan (WAJ) Mahmoud Al Talhouni said Monday that water pumping from Deir Alla was stopped at the beginning of July due to problems with the suitability of the water supply. Drinking water is currently pumped from wells near Amman.

The controversy arose when people in and around Amman complained about the unpleasant taste of the tap water. After investigations and lab tests, the WAJ found that water was leaking from the King Talal Dam to Deir Alla water supply. The

water was polluted with nontoxic moss coming from King Talal Dam.

Jordan Valley Authority sources affirmed that pumping was suspended from Deir Alla water supply and stressed that no unusual cases of diarrhoea were reported.

However, well-placed sources attributed the unpleasant taste of water to the water reservoir in Dabouq area, which they said needed cleaning. WAJ teams emptied Dabouq reservoirs Sunday in preparation for cleaning them.

Royal Decree approves Arab cultural accord

AMMAN (Petra) — A Royal Decree was issued Monday endorsing a Cabinet decision ratifying agreement to improve the flow of Arab cultural material among Arab countries. The decree implements a resolution passed by the sixth Arab conference on culture held in Damascus last April.

The decree also endorsed a pan-Arab agreement to provide protection to authors' rights in accordance with a resolution passed by Arab ministers of culture at a meeting held in Baghdad in November 1981.

Commenting on the two agreements, Mr. Haidar Mahmoud,

director general of the Department of Culture and Arts, said the first agreement provides for exchanging materials on culture, art and science within Arab states. The agreement also covers plays, music, radio and television programmes, documentaries, folk arts and maps. Mr. Mahmoud said.

The second agreement is aimed at providing protection to the work of Arab writers and artists according to an agreement enacted in 1964. The accord empowers national authorities to make use of such cultural material for the benefit of the nation.

Iranians raid French freighter

(Continued from page 1)

anti-aircraft defences at Al Farisiah island and made a "destructive hit" on an oil terminal.

The island lies some 330 kilometres south of Iraq and midway between Saudi Arabia and Iran.

The Iraqi communiqué said other warplanes scored an "accurate and effective hit" on a large naval target — Iraq's usual term for a tanker or a merchant ship.

It said all the planes involved in the raids returned safely to base. Baghdad Radio said the fighter-bombers raided Farisiah Island 51 minutes after the strike on the unidentified tanker at 9.05 a.m.

Gulf-based maritime shipping and salvage executives said the

Iraqis were apparently avenging the Iranian attack on the French freighter because France is one of Iraq's main military suppliers.

Monday's attack on the French-owned ship occurred shortly after Iran accused French border police at Geneva airport of beating up an Iranian diplomat.

Relations between Paris and Tehran were already tense, with the two countries at loggerheads over French demands that an interpreter at the Iranian embassy in Paris answer a summons to testify about a series of bombings last year.

The Ville d'Anvers apparently was not escorted by a French warship, although France keeps three navy vessels in the Gulf to protect ships flying its flag.



Chinese performer enthralls audience with precision twirling feat (Photo by Yousef Al 'Allan)

Chinese acrobatic team thrills Jerash audience

By Peter Baratta
Special to the Jordan Times

JERASH — Trick cycling, jar twirling and breathtaking acts of balance are just some of the many routines the Shang Xi Acrobatic Troupe is performing during its engagement at this year's Jerash Festival of Culture and Arts.

The troupe, based in the Shang Xi province of the People's Republic of China, has won worldwide acclaim and numerous international awards for its acrobatic skills and entertaining feats. The group will perform most evenings from 9-11 p.m. at the Forum until July 23.

The 15-member group ranges in age from 14 to 41 and is the first Chinese acrobatic team to perform at Jerash since the Hang Zhou troupe in 1983, according to Mr. Xing Xinghe, second secretary at the Chinese embassy in Amman.

Speaking through an interpreter, Mr. Xing said the troupe's two-hour performance includes balancing acts on bicycles, chairs and tightropes, plate spinning, juggling acts with rabbits, jars and "water meters" — glass

bowls filled with water, as well as other visually exciting stunts.

The Shang Xi group, one of 30 provincial acrobatic troupes in China, has performed in many countries, including a seven-nation tour of Africa in 1981, a ten-city tour in Japan in 1984 and trips to Singapore and the United States earlier this year, he said.

In addition, the troupe has won international awards in Paris and Moroccan-based competitions, he said.

The art of acrobatics in China spans over 2,000 years but it has only been within the last ten years that the acts have gained worldwide attention, he said.

Acrobatic performers usually begin their training at an early age, usually 4 to 5 years old, he said. If instructors believe a child has potential, the child is put through a rigorous training period where he or she learns balancing and juggling techniques, he said.

During training sessions, accidents do occur but they are seldom serious, he said, adding that during performances safety lines are attached to the acrobats during potentially dangerous stunts.

Jerash Festival of Culture and Arts 1987

Folk troupe highlights local traditions

By Najwa Najjar
Jordan Times Staff Reporter



Smiling children hold hands as part of the Haya Arts Centre performance at the Artemis Theatre (Photo by Yousef Al 'Allan)

Haya group brings Artemis to life

By Nermeen Murad
Special to the Jordan Times

JERASH — They danced, sang and leapt on the ancient stage of Artemis in Jerash, bringing life into the motionless stones of the old city.

Forty-six children from the Haya Arts Centre (HAC) had their moments of glory Saturday and Sunday at the sixth Jerash Festival, currently being held in the ancient Roman city.

Dressed in traditional colourful

costumes, the children enchanted the audience with their innocence and natural behaviour on stage. Though their movements were not professionally coordinated, the children were in a mood of such pleasure over their own performance, that they were able to transfer their joy to the audience.

The show, originally scheduled as a folklore performance, turned into a variety show with the children singing songs and dancing to popular tunes. These were punctuated with guess and win competitions which included riddles, short questions and poetry quizzes. One public security officer guessed a riddle and won a balloon.

Families of the children enjoyed watching the show and took pictures of the children for keepsakes. The coordinators of the show gave encouragement to the children by clapping and shouting words of encouragement throughout the show.

JERASH — Quickly becoming an international known group, the Royal Jordanian Folklore Troupe will present their talents to audiences at the South Theatre this evening from 7:30-8:30 p.m., and on July 16 and 23 from 9:30-10:30 p.m. at the Sound and Light Theatre.

The 49 members will perform traditional Jordanian folklore dances and songs, and play music from various regions of Jordan. On the closing night, they plan something extra.

"We have prepared a musical drama about the life of Faris Awad, chief singer of the troupe before he died in a car accident a year ago. It is a play in memory of him," said Mano Satamian, choreography and artistic director of the troupe.

Mr. Satamian has adapted traditional elements in Jordanian culture. He explained: "I take a dance from say, Ramtha, remove the parts I consider to be boring and reorganise the steps sequences."

In line with bringing authentic expressions of Jordanian cultural and social life, the colourful costumes are based on traditional regional dress. The musical accompaniment is played on traditional Arabic instruments, such as *tablah* (skin drums), *daif* (tambourine), *kaba bah* (one stringed oudin violin-like instrument), in addition to reed



In traditional dress, the Royal Jordanian Folklore Troupe dances to the sounds of Jordanian music

flutes, violin, accordion and bagpipes.

Mr. Satamian stressed that this is especially important when the troupe performs abroad. "I want to present Jordanian culture and life to the outside world, in order for them to see what Jordan is and to respect our culture," he said.

The troupe has performed at Royal Jordanian airline (RJ) route openings in all the Gulf states, throughout Europe, in several American states, and in Asia. They also represented Jordan at the 1984 Olympic Games in Los Angeles.

Of the 34 dances the troupe practices, only 12 or 13 can be performed during the one hour slot given to them at Jerash. The troupe has staged its dances and

songs at four of the Jerash festivals.

The troupe was founded in 1980 primarily as troupe to attend the opening of airline routes, said Mr. Satamian. Today the troupe, which includes young Jordanians employed in various types of work or pursuing their studies, performs at a variety of cultural events throughout the world, he said.

The troupe is working towards folklore ballet which will express Jordanian folklore through ballet movements. "I hope to translate meanings and words into movements, universal movements which will be understood from Singapore to the U.S.," concluded Mr. Satamian who studied ballet in Beirut.

ANNOUNCEMENT

The Canadian embassy in Amman is looking to purchase or lease a villa suitable for use as the ambassador's residence. Interested parties may contact the Administration Section of the Canadian embassy, Tel. 666124/125/126, Sunday to Thursday 08:30-16:00 hrs. Description should include floor plans, location, photos and price. The house should be within the following specifications: Property size - between 1000-2000 sq.m. Building size - 317 to 472 sq.m. net 418 to 613 sq.m. gross

Note: No brokers, only owners, closing date for receiving offers 20.7.87.

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Educating ourselves

WE hail the decision by the government to hold a national conference on education in Amman next month and we salute the consensus among our educators that it is time to overhaul the country's educational system. As His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan has pointed out, the conference will represent the first assessment of existing educational methods and objectives in Jordan. The evaluation, as His Royal Highness has made clear, is required to help introduce reforms to our educational system.

We share the view that improvements to our educational process are needed, whether they touch upon our schools or teachers or textbooks, and it is time we begin introducing proposals to insure a suitable educational system for future generations.

While we should draw mainly on the experiences of the neighbouring countries, the experiences of other countries outside our region concerning education should also be examined to enrich our contacts with the outside world. Jordan and its neighbours belong to the "developing world" category of countries and we have much to learn from the developed world about schooling. However, we should not blindly duplicate the systems of the more sophisticated countries of the world without regard to our circumstances and traditions. Rather, our educators should draw on the experiences of the more advanced societies and implement measures appropriate to our conditions and situations.

Thus, we would welcome the participation of experts from UNESCO and other relevant international organisations as well as from countries with creative approaches to education.

The August conference will no doubt explore many innovative concepts on education. The anticipated reforms can include the introduction of "civic" courses for our students at the elementary and secondary levels to help future generations to understand their civic duties and rights. The encouragement of sports and arts in our schools would add another dimension to our future scholastic curricula as would better teacher-student and parent-school relationships. The list of innovations is indeed long and we are confident that the concerned authorities and participants in the conference will try to make the Jordanian educational system the envy of other countries in and out of our region.

ARABIC PRESS EDITORIALS

Al Ra'i: Expatriates' responsibility

THE Third Expatriates Congress opens in Amman Monday, and it is hoped that the participants will do everything possible to make it a success, far exceeding that of the first two congresses in the past two years. We hope this congress will define the responsibilities of the expatriates towards their home country and the rights entitled to them by Jordan and its various organisations and agencies. We welcome the expatriates in their home country with affection and enthusiasm and take pride in their national sense of belonging and their endeavours to serve their nation. The expatriates shoulder serious responsibility towards their country and this is represented in their continued endeavours to transfer capital to be invested in development projects that would benefit both the expatriates and their countrymen. By investing in Jordan, the expatriates are thus returning the favour of their homeland which is now confronting difficult circumstances. The government has done its best to solve many of the issues that has worried the expatriates in the past and the third congress with its working papers and discussions provides another chance for strengthening the expatriates links with their country.

Al Dustour: Klibi urges summit

THE talks of Arab League Secretary General Chadli Klibi with Prince Hassan and his contacts with other Arab leaders are focusing on diplomatic efforts for achieving solidarity among Arab states. Klibi's tour in Arab capitals which followed close on the heels of a tour by a seven member Arab committee in different world nations is designed to help the Arab League forge ahead with efforts to bring the Arabs closer together through an Arab summit meeting and for ending the seven year old Gulf conflict. In Amman, Mr. Klibi discussed King Hussein's efforts for ending differences among Arab states and the monarch's efforts for convening an international Middle East peace conference which offers the most practical means for finding a lasting solution to the Arab-Israeli conflict. Klibi's tour and talks with Arab leaders also centered over means of removing obstacles in the path of joint Arab action and allowing Arab League agencies to continue with their efforts to serve the Arab Nation. We hope that Klibi's tour will be fruitful and will pave the way for convening an Arab summit conference which offers a good chance for the Arab Nation to free itself from the current whirlpool of disputes and side differences.

Sawt Al Shaab: Expatriates expected to contribute

PARTICIPANTS in the Third Expatriates Congress in Amman will no doubt benefit from the experience of the first and second congresses held over the past two years. What has been achieved so far in the course of strengthening the expatriates' links with their home country is really encouraging, but more work is still to be done for further cementing bilateral cooperation. The participants in the third congress will no doubt review the achievements of the earlier meetings which prompted the government to allow them dual nationality, offer them the right to social security and pave the ground for other benefits for the expatriates and their families. The Housing Corporation has allowed the expatriates the chance to own homes at the Abu Nuseir housing estate, the Customs Department is facilitating the entry of expatriates into Jordan and various other government departments are contributing to the effort of serving both the expatriates and the Kingdom. It is therefore hoped that the third congress will be another chance for the expatriates to offer their contribution to the development of their homeland.

The View from Second Circle

The end of an elegant era?

By Rami G. Khouri

IT started slowly, several years ago, in the early years of this decade, when the recession was just starting and there was no way to know that we were on the verge of a historic, profound change in the way of life of Jordan and its people. The first victim was the traffic circle at Wadi Saqra — you ask, most of you who can't remember Amman in the pre-Tom-and-Jerry days — what and where was the Wadi Saqra circle?

It was a large, rather imperfect traffic circle which occupied the intersection where the Wadi Saqra traffic lights reign today. This was the Jordanian government's first warning shot, back then in the early years of this decade, warning us that the days of the traffic circles were numbered. We did not react so swiftly then. After all, the Wadi Saqra circle was a relative newcomer, hardly to be compared with veterans like the First Circle, or beauties like the Second Circle, or giants like the Fifth Circle, or monsters like the Interior Ministry circle.

Then, the campaign intensified. After Wadi Saqra circle was wiped away and replaced by traffic lights, there was a brief pause, a decent interlude during which the government was testing and gauging public reaction to the demise of a traffic circle. The reaction was hardly to be heard. I and several others attempted to raise a warning flag, to question whether it was wise to rid Amman of its traffic circles.

We argued, to no avail, that traffic circles were a vital element of Amman's character, architecture, urban fabric and history. The government, like governments tend to be, was heartless, uncaring, insensitive. A year later, the Interior Ministry circle fell to the bulldozers and the plans of the urban redesigners and the gurus of traffic flow. Then, earlier this year, without warning, without a public hearing, without even a minister being interviewed on television by a very serious Jordan Television news director, complete with deeply furrowed forehead and the agony reflected most vividly in facial wrinkles, expanding eyes and strategically

timed nodes of the bead and scribbles of the pencil, the government intensified its campaign into a full-scale war.

The Seventh Circle has been done away with, and replaced by traffic lights. The Fifth Circle and Sixth Circle are both in the process of being transformed into intersections with traffic lights. It is only a matter of time before the rest of the circles go, and in my self-appointed capacity as the president of the Friends of the Circles Society, I feel it is inappropriate for this process of destruction and transformation to pass without comment. It is not only the dignity of the circles themselves that I think of, it is what the circles have to tell us about ourselves.

Take, for example, the Fifth Circle. It was a creature of the 1970s, a symbol of the boom years, which formed the epicentre of a whole new neighbourhood of Amman, which in turn reflected a whole new social, political and psychological reality. The Fifth Circle and its environs represented money, wealth, a new kind of Jordanian lifestyle, based on often unearned riches. It was, for a few years, the western edge of Amman, an urban milestone beyond which was the wilderness.

The Seventh Circle was to play a similar role in the late seventies and early eighties. It, too, marked a frontier, for it was the gateway to the new airport. The Seventh Circle was New York, Paris and Bangkok, and also Aqaba, Petra and Karak. It was functional, a route to somewhere else, and not, like the Fifth Circle, a destination in itself, or a symbol of what one was, or what one aspired to be. And the Fourth Circle, though inelegant, was also doomed, and has disappeared.

I think traffic circles are very appropriate to Jordan. They reflect accurately our psyche, and our attitude to life. For one thing, they represent, geometrically and psychologically, a drama of perpetual effort, leading nowhere. You drive around a circle in a straight line or a curved line, forcing your way from the inner to the outer circle, honking your horn, flashing your headlights, using your signal

lights, occasionally even stopping to let another car into or out of the circle. There is a timelessness and directionlessness about traffic circles that well mirrors our society. A traffic intersection with lights is nothing in comparison. Traffic lights are surgical in their precision and timing and absolute regularity. You stop. You wait. And you go. There is no scope for wondering about the world, for a leisurely one-more-time-around such as there is in a good circle. If you make a wrong turn at an intersection, you need about 20 minutes to navigate the one-way streets and try it again. If you miss your turn out of a circle, you just go around again, turn up the radio, open the window a bit to get that breeze right on your arms and face, and in about 10 seconds you have another chance to take the correct exit out of the circle.

The Second Circle, with its new fountain and wheel, is a tremendous example of what can be done with an urban circle when good minds are brought to bear on the metaphysics of traffic circles. The Second Circle is almost always full of children, and older men and women, who gather to gaze at the water and carry on the conversations that are the essential building blocks of urbanism, if not of life itself. The Second Circle renaissance is something that should be repeated throughout Amman. It is not enough for mechanical minds that solve traffic riddles to say that the circles must go and be replaced by traffic lights at intersections, and to justify this decision on the basis of traffic flow projections for the next 20 years.

Jordan has a chance here to do something creative, something novel. We can think of ways by which we could maintain some of our traffic circles, regulate the flow of traffic more efficiently by a combination of one-way streets, lights and speed bumps, and also provide the kind of urban space that city dwellers obviously are asking for.

Israel bans teen-agers from play on occupation

By Dan Izenberg

The Associated Press

TEL AVIV, Israel — The Israeli censorship board has barred teenagers from viewing a frank and disturbing play about Israel's occupation of the West Bank and Gaza Strip on the grounds they are not mature to cope with the subject.

The decision has drawn sharp criticism from the play's author, the director of the theatre that will stage it and liberal Israelis who maintain the age limit is politically motivated.

The play, titled "The Yellow Time," is based on a newly published book of personal impressions and interviews with Israelis and Palestinians living in the occupied territories. It was written by David Grossman, one of Israel's leading authors.

Miriam Etzioni, head of the independent Yuvai theatre, said she appealed the decision to Israel's film and theatre censorship board and if necessary will take the matter to the supreme court.

"The only possible reason for such a restriction is political," Ms. Etzioni said of the board's decision to restrict the play to audiences age 18 and over.

Yehoshua Justman, head of the censorship board, justified the restriction, saying he did not believe teen-agers could "deal with the problem of the occupied territories when it is presented in dramatic form."

Israel occupied the West Bank and Gaza Strip during the 1967 Middle East war. About 1.4 million Palestinians live in the territories along with about 64,000 illegal Jewish settlers.

Grossman told the Associated Press the colour Yellow in his title symbolised "the desert, the aridity of this unchanging and prolonged conflict."

He said he chose the colour because of a legend related to him by an old woman from Dheisheh refugee camp, 15 kilometres south of Jerusalem.

"We are waiting for the yellow

wind," Grossman said the woman told him. "A yellow wind, straight from hell, hot and burning. The people flee from it ... But if it wants, it can reach every criminal and every oppressor and kill them one by one."

"That's what the yellow wind does. It catches up with everyone."

The story, said Grossman, is a parable of the vengeance that may be wreaked on the Jews one day for creating the state of Israel in 1948 and capturing the West Bank and Gaza Strip 20 years ago.

In the stage adaptation, actors sitting in chairs will portray Grossman and the Jews and Palestinians he interviewed.

Scriptwriter Ella Alterman converted the text of Grossman's interviews and comments into dramatic dialogue but did not change the wording in any way. The actors, dressed in casual clothing, portray more than one character.

In one scene, "the journalist" spoke to a 5-year-old boy in Dheisheh.

"What do soldiers do?" the journalist asked the boy. "Searches and beatings," the boy replied.

"Do you know who the Jews are?" the journalist asked. "The army," replied the boy. "Are there other Jews?"

"No."

Grossman, who also presents the views of Jewish settlers in the occupied territories, said he was stunned by the hatred he encountered in the territories.

"At six o'clock I was back in downtown Jerusalem," he wrote after one of his trips to the West Bank. "It was a grey, foggy evening and the people were busy with their own, ever-so-civilian affairs, so far from the hatred and the danger. I walked among them like a bearer of evil tidings among the innocent."

Despite the harshness of the language, Grossman maintains the play should be shown to Israeli teen-agers.

"The censorship board's decision is ridiculous," he said. "Children are just as exposed to (the occupation) as adults."

Some liberal Israelis are outspoken on behalf of the author and theatre. Columnist Giora Manor, writing in the left-wing newspaper Al Hamishmar, recently commented:

"Mr. Justman and his flock of sheep have done it again. The members of the film and theatre censorship board never learn and go on fulfilling their roles as the national clowns. ..."

But Justman said the presentation of the book in dramatic form would have too powerful an impact on children.

"The occupation is a very difficult and painful problem and one has to know how to handle it," he said. "So let the adults cope with it. I don't want to hide anything. But for children, the problem has to be presented in a different way."

Justman refused to discuss what he found objectionable for teen-agers in Grossman's play.

Ms. Etzioni pointed out some of the teen-agers banned from seeing the play may be serving as soldiers in the occupied territories.

"The laws of the state allow a 17-year old to sign his name and join the army," Ms. Etzioni said. "In this case the state says he is mature enough to decide. But it doesn't trust him enough to let him buy a ticket to a play."

The censorship board was originally established by British authorities about 60 years ago to curb anti-British incitement from Jews in Palestine.

Today, the censorship board reviews all plays and films shown in Israel. Usually, it censors hard-core pornography or violence but has caused periodic controversies by censoring satiric plays critical of the state or society.

In December the board caused a stir by banning an anti-religious satire called "The Last Secular Jew" but relented after one session of the play was cut.

Flying saucers elusive balboa in Panama

By Berns Dehussmann

Reuter

PANAMA CITY — The country has a currency which exists only in the imagination, leaders who believe in spirits and a population whose voting habits have often defied logic.

"The Panamanian has his way of being, and it is not the same as in other countries," says the country's military ruler, General Manuel Antonio Noriega.

Noriega is a controversial man at the centre of Panama's political crisis, but even his worst enemies would not dispute that Panama is a country with a difference, where it is often difficult to tell the difference between fact and fiction.

Take the balboa, the monetary unit with which all prices are marked.

"The monetary unit of Panama is the balboa," proclaims an official leaflet. "It is common that you get your change in dollars."

Not surprisingly, Panama has no real currency of its own and uses the U.S. dollar. Balboas exist only as coins (up to 50 cents) with the same size and weight as American coins.

Sharing the balboa's existence in the realm of the imagination is the Panama hat. Almost never worn in Panama, the Panama hat is made in Ecuador.

"We do things differently

here," said opposition leader Ricardo Arias Calderon, whose belief in the uniqueness of Panama is probably the only thing he has in common with Noriega.

Colonel Roberto Diaz Herrera, the former officer who unleashed Panama's present political crisis, has told reporters he responded to inner voices when he accused Noriega of complicity in murder, drug-running and electoral fraud.

Diaz Herrera, Noriega's former second-in-command, said that after meeting an Indian guru who guided him to the path of righteousness he himself had repented his participation in vote-rigging and corrupt practices.

The opposition, displaying the tolerance Panamanians say is a national characteristic, turned the colonel into an instant hero despite a 25-year career in the military complete with a crop of corruption charges.

The turmoil that followed Diaz Herrera's turnabout appeared to have attracted attention even in outer space. Almost for a week the government newspaper Critica reported that flying saucers had been sighted over Panama.

In the anti-Noriega street protests that have torn Panama for more than a month, Panamanians showed once again that they have their own way of doing things.

The rebellion has been led by Panama's middle class, and

where protesters in other countries might trudge along streets with banners, Panamanian demonstrators by the thousands took to their cars.

Seated in air-conditioned comfort, they honked their horns and fastened white handkerchiefs to radio aerials and windscreen wipers.

One of Noriega's chief detractors is Dr. Arnulfo Arias, whose apparent popularity among a sizeable sector of Panama's black population is a mystery to foreigners who try to use logic as an instrument in analysing Panamanian events.

Arias, 86, won presidential elections here three times — only to be forced out of office three times by the military.

In the last general elections in 1984, he swept the vote in the city of Colon, whose population is mainly black and poor.

Arias took office as president for the first time in 1940 and promptly wrote a new constitution which banned the immigration of blacks, Chinese and Japanese. It stripped Panamanian blacks who spoke no Spanish of their citizenship.

He called for the sterilisation of blacks who had come to Panama from the West Indies, a major source of labour when the Panama Canal was being built in the first quarter of the century.

Regent opens third conference of expatriates

(Continued from page 1)

Referring to the unemployment problem in the Kingdom, Prince Hassan directed attention to the need to "effectively instill in our children productive social values that will open new horizons of specialisation and career choices, to better serve themselves and their society, not only in the advanced stages of education but by implementation from the beginning of the educational process."

Prince Hassan said that higher education in the country required "a quantitative and qualitative review." He said universities had yet "to provide Jordanian society with scientists specialised in absorbing and utilising modern technology to further development in agriculture, industrial production, telecommunications and other fields." He further added that there was a great need for interaction among Jordanian universities in studies and research.

Prince Hassan reaffirmed Jordan's unwavering role in the support of people in the occupied territories and the Kingdom's measures to help Palestinians maintain their steadfastness against Israel's occupation of the West Bank. "Jordan will remain, whatever its capabilities and resources, a staunch supporter of all our people and their institutions in the occupied territories," Prince Hassan said. "Just as national development in any Arab country represents a brick in the wider Arab national structure, so is supporting the steadfastness of the occupied territories a national duty."

At the end of his speech Prince

Hassan stressed Jordan was intensifying efforts towards "a dialogue between brotherly Arab countries, to bring their views closer together with the aim of regaining Arab and Islamic solidarity as an expression of the joint perception of the unity of our destiny and with a view to unified action in the face of all challenges posed to our Arab Nation."

Mahmoud Mirza, chairman of the executive committee of the Jordanian community in Kuwait, spoke on behalf of all the participants of the third conference of expatriates and extended their appreciation for all efforts and help offered by the Jordanian government, whether in Jordan or through the government's ambassadors in their respective countries of residence.

Mr. Mirza also underlined the effectiveness of the annual gatherings by reviewing their achievements in the past years. "We have been given exemptions, facilities and services in various fields — incentives and investments facilities, tax and custom exemptions, and special facilities regarding conscription, which every devoted citizen owes to his country," he said.

The first two expatriates conferences, held in 1985 and 1986, dealt with issues including investment opportunities and expatriate participation in economic projects to develop Jordan. Mr. Mirza said and proposed that the third conference focus more on the development of the occupied West Bank and its people.

In addition to working papers dealing with evaluation of the second conference, a working

paper dealing with the occupied territories affairs and Jordan's developmental efforts will be presented at the third conference.

Labour Minister Khaled Al Haj Hassan, chairman of the higher preparatory committee for the conference, discussed the efforts of the Jordanian government under the leadership of His Majesty King Hussein to help make the conference a success and the efforts of the expatriates themselves "without whose help the conference would not have reached this level of success."

According to Industry and Trade Ministry sources, leaders of Jordanian expatriates attending the conference met Sunday with officials from the Ministry of Industry and Trade where they discussed the establishment of a holding company with a capital of JD 30 million.

Hoss, Chamoun hold meeting

(Continued from page 1)

was assassinated June 1. Mr. Chamoun told reporters later he was optimistic that measures decided at the meeting would harness the crisis that has sent the Lebanese pound plummeting from 130 to the dollar last month to an unprecedented 190 last Saturday.

Mr. Chamoun, 87, a former president, refused to say what the measures were or give any details of the talks. But an aide said another meeting was scheduled for Wednesday.



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A culture in crisis

The Vanished Imam: Musa Al Sadr and the Shi'a of Lebanon

By Fouad Ajami, I.B. Tauris London and Cornell University Press, New York

FOUAD Ajami's latest work, like his earlier *The Arab Predicament*, is concerned with the decline of the politics, politics and elites which govern the Middle East and their inability to cope with, let alone solve, the great political, demographic, economic and cultural changes which have been taking place over the last two or three decades. *The Arab Predicament* was concerned with the larger Middle East scene; *The Vanished Imam* is concerned mostly with Lebanon but it is predicated on the prognostications of the first. After all, if there were any community vigour left in the Sunni-dominated politics of the Middle East (ironically Lebanon was an exception to this rule), how could a Shi'a cleric from Iran have played such a significant role in Lebanon, a supposedly tightly knit confessional community where *ajamis* (Persian foreigners) were looked upon with suspicion. Yet Musa Al Sadr managed to establish himself in Lebanon with the acquiescence of the Sunnis and the beleaguered Maronites. His success is the story of an increasingly enervated civic culture unable to confront adequately the challenges posed from the 1960s onward. It is the metahistory of a culture in crisis.

The metahistory focuses on the saga of Musa Al Sadr, whose leadership of the Shi'ites in southern Lebanon led him to political prominence and then to political legitimacy in the 1970s and 80s. It is the story of a sect and of a section of the Middle East: A microcosm of the violent, structureless, uncertain and challenged regimes and elites of the Middle East during the last 20 to 30 years. It is the story of the demise in the 70s and 80s of the social and political structure of the Arab World.

The resurgence of Iran and the role of the Shi'a clergy from that country in Iraq, and especially in Lebanon in the 1960s and onwards, dramatically emphasises these historical trends. It is important to stress that these developments began somewhat before the revolution in Iran. Indeed Ajami provides us with one of the best accounts of the reasons for the Iranian revolution, as well as for the civil war in Lebanon. In an article which appeared before the publication of *The Vanished Imam* Ajami asks: "Is the Ayatollah of Iran to be faulted when he asserts that he knows no more and no less about the modern world than the technocrats and officers of neighbouring countries who are running for cover in a region they have shaken and transformed, and much to their dismay, must now govern?" But can it really be characterised as government by default, as Ajami would have it?

Musa Al Sadr was a man for the times. Ajami gives him full credit for this. Being religiously trained he was well equipped to attempt to straddle the fierce confessional conflicts of Lebanon. It is natural that his adversaries, even Shi'ite, would say that his appearance in Lebanon was mysterious, that he was a CIA agent or that he had been sent by the shah, etc. Ajami will have none of this, and rightly so. Could either the CIA or Savak foresee what was to occur after 1959, the date of Musa Al Sadr's

arrival in Lebanon? Let us not give credit where credit is not due.

While it is perhaps true that Arab societies may be resilient, are they as "tough" or "hard" as Ajami says? If so, would Musa Al Sadr have been as successful as he was, and in his absence, continues to be? It seems that Kamil Bey Al Assad, Hafiz Al Assad, Saib Salam, even Maronite clergy and ambitious Shi'ite *nouveaux riches* needed Musa Al Sadr for one reason or another, stranger than that he was. The fact that Musa Al Sadr obtained prominence in Lebanon is indicative of the weakness of civic culture; the need for which, with the decline of the respective confessional groups, including the Palestinians, could only be expressed religiously. Musa Al Sadr's "reinterpreted" Shi'ism was partly able to bridge the civic void; the secular leadership of the confessional communities was no longer equal to the task. In fact Musa Al Sadr's task, which he apparently recognised, was not just to fill a void in the civic culture but to contribute to the sense of a civic culture, perhaps for the first time in Lebanon. It was a daunting task and one could hardly expect it to have been achieved, even if he had lived. It is unlikely that Lebanon will ever again be free to follow its own culturally desired evolution. The real fear of his adversaries (and they included Sunnis, Christians, Arab nationalists, socialists, communists, etc.) and probably some of his friends, was that Musa Al Sadr would actually cross the void of their confessional politics and pose an even greater threat to their confessional *Weltanschauung*. This would have threatened many of the dominant and would-be dominant groups in Lebanon, most of whom had been created by the forces of the imperial history of the Ottoman empire, of Europe, the United States and more lately, Israel.

Contrary to popular supposition, it seems historically logical that the diminution of Sunni and Christian social and political power and its accompanying loss of cultural efficacy be further accelerated by a Shi'ite cleric from Iran whose family originated in Lebanon. The *Weltanschauung* he possessed was more profound than the "hard" and "tough" realpolitik and thus religiously and philosophically deprived views of his adversaries.

Imam Musa Al Sadr vanished, but as Ajami states, he is still present in the politics and life of Lebanon and indeed in the wider Middle East. His adversaries, the "hard" and the "tough" realpoliticians, still predominate; they are an enduring bunch created as they were by centuries of imperial realities. They will not acquiesce easily. If they do lose power, they will not vanish. But the appearance of Musa Al Sadr and the "mystery" associated with him must be profoundly unsettling to them. They do not understand his mystery and until they do it is doubtful whether a fuller participating civic culture can emerge in Lebanon and in other Arab countries. — Middle East International, London.

Robert Olson

Of Places and People

Settling in Jenin

By Dr. Nicola A. Ziadeh

IT was in the spring of 1917 that we went to live in Jenin. My mother, through the help of some friend, got a job as superintendent of the laundry at the German military hospital there. The Germans were the allies of the Ottomans in World War I. The German headquarters was in Nazareth. But they had an air base in Jenin. The hospital was a building owned by Afif Abdul Hadi. Jenin had two families which competed for the place of leadership. The Abdul Hadis and the Abbushis. The former had a larger presence in the town itself. The Abbushis were more influential in the villages. But rivalry or competition then meant an attempt on behalf of either group to endear themselves to their followers through extending help to them in case of need.

Another building owned by an

Abdul Hadi, Nazmi by name, had been taken by the Turkish government to be used as a hospital. But what a difference was there between the two hospitals. A third prominent member of the Abdul Hadis was Qasim. I knew him better because his son, Jamal, was my classmate when eventually the school was opened in Jenin. This took place some time after the British occupation of northern Palestine. For the building which had been constructed earlier as a school, was occupied by non-commissioned German officers. So when we went to live in Jenin, and for over two years, I attended no school — neither did other boys. What was available was the ordinary *buttab*, or very elementary school, run privately by a sheikh. I did not go because my knowledge of Arabic was superior to what that school ca-

tered for.

Jenin was a town of some 4,000 people or so. It was the seat of a sub-district with about fifty villages. The administrator, known as *qaim-maqam*, was rarely heard of. The man whose presence was felt, and whose name was on the lips of every body was the superintendent of police. Masan Bey was a tall lean man, with dark face, clean shaven, but had a light moustache, which was as dark as his hair. People said that he was originally from the Hijaz. He certainly was respected and liked by the people of Jenin. After the British occupation he joined the Palestine police force, and eventually held a high position in that force.

My mother has a good job. It gave her three Ottoman (gold) pounds per month. She was entitled, besides, to rations from the hospital. These included sugar, tea, chocolates and biscuits. When she had to stay at the hospital the whole day she had her lunch there. We kids, were fortunate. On such days the lady of the house, part of which we rented, looked after us. Mrs. Shalback was a widow — she had two sons and a daughter. She just considered that she had six children. We were then actually four children, three boys and a girl. But my sister spent most of the time with my grandparents at Nazareth.

We, kids of my ages, had nothing particular to do. We went out to the stream which sprang to the south of the town and eventually pounded its water, with tributaries adding their share en route, to the mouth of Haifa. This was *Al Mugatt'a*, *الماغي* the Megiddo of ancient times. Our most pleasant past-time there was to fish *haubis* (eels) which we took home to be treated



A general view of Jenin at the beginning of this century

for a meal.

Often we went out to the outskirts of the town to collect herbs for cooking or salad. *Khnab-zeh*, *hindbeli* (*hit*) and many other things were not sold in the market. So we sought them. Sometimes we collected mushrooms. Often we would meet a shepherd, who would meet a payment of a piastre or so, give us some fresh milk. This we turned into cheese by adding a few drops of the juice of an unripe fig. Then we would consume that with bread we had carried with us.

In the evenings, or late afternoons in winter, we kids attended "Garagouse", a sort of puppet show which amused us to no end. The man who held these scenes would prepare three characters who were the only "actors". They were Garagouse, Twaz and Taraman. The force, as it should be called, followed a regular technique. The first two normally entered into an argument, which occasionally turned into a fight. Then Taraman appeared on the scene as peace-maker. The two then turned against Taraman, accusing him of meddling in matters which did not concern him,

and gave him a real dialogue or the conversation. One thing should be mentioned here. The man of the show had no restriction concerning the use of obscene language. Hence girls were never allowed to attend. But during the month of Ramadan not a single obscene word was ever used.

What interested us most in Garagouse was the criticism the man levelled against some of the dignitaries of the town. Hardly anybody escaped unscathed. As the town was small everybody understood the references to the men in Jenin.

Ramadan provided people with a number of recreations. After the mid-afternoon prayer men assembled mostly at the Great Mosque where the Koran is first read and then certain verses were interpreted. Sheikh Said Mir, later to be one of my teachers, had a most charming voice and intoned the Koran in one of most beautiful ways I have ever heard. He would sit at the head of the circle, with his sandy hair, light brown beard, red-eyes and would deliver his "lesson" in a most charming way. Another personality was the mufti of Jenin, Sheikh Adib Al Khalidi, lean, dark in hair and beard, and soft spoken was not less attractive because of his knowledge. Occasionally a learned visitor from Nablus, or even from Jerusalem, would be an especial guest of honour on such occasions. We kids allowed ourselves of creeping in, sitting at the very end of the mats, not rugs, of the mosque to listen to whoever would be the speaker of the day.

There was another serious past-time for them men, especially on Ramadan nights. This was the story-teller, who read the "Story of Antar" at the Cafe of Hajji Ahmad. Again, we kids crept silently and sat on stones to

listen to the story teller. When discovered by Hajji Ahmad or any of his boys, we were just chased out.

Talking about the "Story of Antar", I wish to introduce it, as well as other similar folk-stories, to the readers of the Jordan Times. These stories had a kernel of history, but popular story-tellers, over the generations, added so much to it, that with time history practically disappeared, and all human passions, love, hero-worship, bottles, honour, hatred, revenge and the like became the themes of such stories, woven together by master-minds of story-telling. Antar, for instance, was a pre-Islamic Arab poet and hero. He fell in love with his cousin, Ahla. But social constraints prevented their marriage. He sang her praises, and fought gallantly in defence of his tribe. His "poem" was one of the "odes" (*muallagat*); and it gave him as much fame as he needed. But the "Story of Antar", which the Jenin story-teller recited at Hajji Ahmad's cafe, and which was set down in writing about seven or eight hundred years later in Egypt, did not have but a pale ray of the glorious Antar of old. As if numerous Antars were woven into the large web. And this was what made it both interesting and exciting for the people to listen to. The same could be said about the king of Yaman, and the leader of the Bani Hilal tribe which spread over north Africa, coming there from Egypt. The original "hero" here suffered what Antar had gone through.

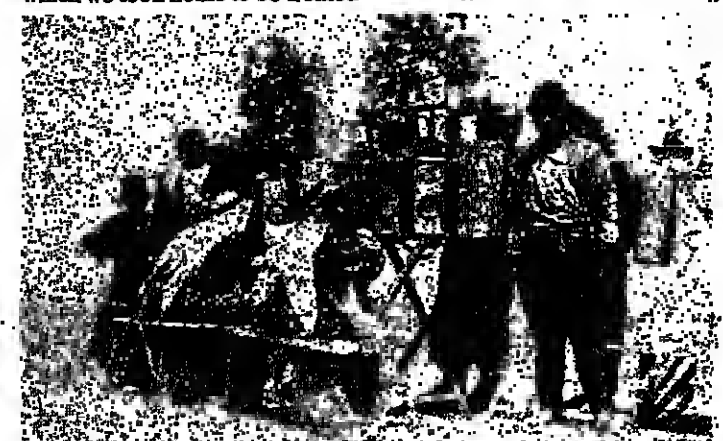
In September 1918, I went to Nazareth to visit my grandparents. On September 22, the British forces entered Nazareth. This was the final and combined drive of Allenby in Palestine and Faisal in Jordan. A new chapter opened in the history of the area.



About the writer

Nicola A. Ziadeh, the son of Abdo Ziadeh and Layla Shurush (Rihani), both of Nazareth, was born in Damascus on Dec. 2, 1907, where his father worked for the Hijaz Railway. He returned with his mother, sister and two brothers to Nazareth early in 1916, following the death of his father. He subsequently lived at Nazareth, Tulkarem and Jenin till 1921 when he joined the Men's Elementary Training (later the Arab) College in Jerusalem. In 1924 he received his diploma and went into the teaching profession at government schools at Acre (preceded by a year at Tarshiha) till 1935. In 1935 he earned a scholarship from the Department of Education, Palestine, to read history at University College, at the University of London, graduating in 1939 (B.A. Hon.). On returning to Palestine he joined the faculties of the Rashidiyya and the Arab Colleges, Jerusalem, where he taught history (and geography for some time) till 1947. Armed with a leave with pay from the Department of Education, and a British Council bursary, he went in that year to England to work for his doctorate at the School of Oriental and African Studies (London). He received the degree in 1950, in *Islamic history*. In 1949 he joined the Department of History at the American University of Beirut, where he served the cause of learning till 1973, when he became professor emeritus. During that period he spent two years as visiting professor at Harvard Uni-

versity (1956-57 and 1962-63); he was also a visiting professor at Kuwait University and at Aligarh Muslim University (India). Since 1973 he has spent two years at the University of Jordan, three years at the Lebanese University and has been supervising doctoral theses in Arab history for St. Joseph University (Beirut). Nicola Ziadeh has travelled widely in the Arab and Muslim World from Nigeria to Central Asia and from North Africa to the Arab Gulf. He has written numerous books on Arab and Islamic history and civilisation, and has prepared about 1,400 radio scripts, both in Arabic and English, for various services. In the Jordan Times of Dec. 2, 1986, on his 79th birthday, Dr. Ziadeh began a series of articles on places where he spent his childhood and youth years, remembering people's habits and way of life then, and painting with words towns and homes in turn of the century's Greater Syria — Syria, Palestine, Lebanon and Jordan.



Early 20th century Palestinian children enjoy peeping into the "box of wonders"

Strict controls ensure Soviet caviar is always on the menu

By Helen Womack
Reporter

DERBENT, Soviet Union — Strict controls and conservation on the Caspian Sea, which produces 97 per cent of the world's caviar, ensure that the glistening delicacy is always on the menu in restaurants from Moscow to New York.

A combination of overfishing and pollution in the 1960s and 70s drastically reduced stocks of sturgeon, whose tiny eggs spread on buttered toast are an essential part of any Soviet celebration and a much-loved luxury in the West too.

But now, thanks to tough controls and fish farming, fisheries officials say the natural balance has been restored and they are determined to maintain it.

"We have secured a balance in the Caspian Sea and I'm confident you will always be able to enjoy caviar," said Garun Khiramanov, head of the West Caspian Fisheries Directorate which runs a complex of fish farms near Derbent in the autonomous Republic of Dagestan.

Here baby sturgeon as well as other fish are reared in tanks, then transferred to artificial lakes before being released to the open sea.

Over 20 million kilos of sturgeon are caught each spring as they swim from the sea into the rivers to spawn but last year two Dagestan fish farms released six million young sturgeon back into the sea to compensate.

In 1986, the Soviet Union produced 2,100 tonnes of black caviar with an official market price of 45 roubles (\$65) a kilo,

160 tonnes of which went for export. The country also produces red caviar but this comes from the Far East and gourmet prize it less highly.

Apart from the Caspian Sea, a few Soviet rivers account for the remaining three per cent of world black caviar production. Iran also takes a small share of sturgeon from its side of the Caspian Sea. Khiramanov said Iran and the Soviet Union had previously cooperated to preserve sturgeon stocks but now contracts were broken because of the political situation in Iran.

"It's a pity because it is in the interests of both countries to work together on fishing questions," he said.

The earlier near-disappearance

of sturgeon from the Soviet part of the Caspian Sea was caused partly by oil pollution from wells at Baku down the coast in Azerbaijan and Grozny on the River Suezha in the neighbouring autonomous Republic of Chechen-Ingush.

The building of hydro-electric plants on the River Volga to the north also disturbed the ecology of rivers where the sturgeon breed.

But Khiramanov said the fish farming had restored losses caused by dam construction while a new system of filtering at oil plants helped to prevent further pollution of the sea.

Fish had returned to the once-fertile Suezha, which flows into the Caspian Sea, he added.

But there is a threat to the sturgeon from illegal fishing by thieves who ignore catch quotas and go outside special zones set aside for amateur fishermen.

Caspian Sea beaches are dotted with signs saying "fishing strictly forbidden" and patrols cruise the coasts and river mouths for poachers who face up to three years in prison if they are caught more than once with a sturgeon in the net.

"The problem is being contained. But you know how it is, forbidden things are always sweetest," sighed Khiramanov as he helped himself from a glistening table of caviar and barbecued sturgeon offered to visiting foreign correspondents strictly from the state stores.

A Dagestan official at the table reminisced about his boyhood when he said he was too young to know he was breaking the law by helping the poachers.

"There was one old man who virtually lived in the sea. He put cigarettes behind his ears so he could smoke in the water and sometimes he even slept floating. He would get me to lay the baits at night and in the morning the lines were so heavy with fish that we needed a car to tow them out of the sea," he said.

The sturgeon, known as the "pig of the sea" because it will eat anything, can grow to the size of a man. Fishermen hunt it in the sea as well as the rivers because its oily meat is also regarded as a delicacy.

A buzz to save horses from the bullet

Alan Cane reports on Electrovet — described as a kind of electrical acupuncture — which promises faster and less-expensive treatment of tendon and other injuries in horses.

LONDON — "Electrovet," an equestrian colleague said approvingly. "You've really hit the hottest topic in the horse world there!"

Tack rooms around Britain, it seems are buzzing with interest in the Electrovet, a new technique for treating horses with tendon and other injuries.

It promises faster healing at dramatically lower cost and without recourse to traditional methods which, to the outsider at least, seem more related to medieval torture than veterinary science.

Electrovet is based on gentle electrical stimulation of the affected part at low levels of current and voltage. It has been described as a kind of electrical acupuncture.

Electrotherapy, the London-based company which manufactures and markets the device, suggests somewhat diffidently that the electrical field generated by the device reinforces the natural electrical activity which characterises a healing wound.

In truth, it seems likely that nobody knows why it works, any more than Western medical spe-

cialists understand the physiological basis of acupuncture.

But, of course, doctors have used treatments like aspirin for decades without a detailed understanding of how they work.

Electrotherapy and its managing director, Lord Robin Innes Ker, have nevertheless met with resistance from the veterinary profession, a resistance which is only now starting to crumble in the face of the Electrovet's track record of success.

The fact is that a growing body of experts in horses and their ailments agree that Electrovet works and can bring the claimed benefits.

Convinced racehorse trainers include Peter Walwyn and Ian and Toby Baldwin; eventers such as Ian Stark and Lucinda Green have used and endorse Electrovet, as does show jumper John Whitaker.

It also has the blessing of Elizabeth Lamder of the Maple Stud near Cranleigh, Surrey, one of the most admired and respected of equine physiotherapists.

The equipment is simple: a battery-powered box of tricks

which generates the healing current is strapped to the horse's back. Wires carry the current to the affected parts where contact is assured through pads soaked in water and electroconductive jelly.

The voltage is set at a level which causes the horse no apparent discomfort, and the animal can be freed to graze during the 90-minute treatment period.

Electrovet is based on gentle electrical stimulation of the affected part at low levels of current and voltage. It has been described as a kind of electrical acupuncture.

It all seems a massively humane improvement on the traditional treatment for damaged tendons, a hideous business called "blistering" where the injury is scorched with hot irons. Nobody knows how that works either; there are theories that scar tissue from the blistering strengthens the tendon.

Humane treatment apart, a

major justification for Electrovet lies in cost savings. Horses, as any Dick Francis fan knows, are flighty creatures prone to all sorts of ailments from pulled tendons to swollen joints. Tendons go under the kind of stresses imposed on them by racing. An expensive racehorse lamed by tendon trouble earns no fees and costs its owner a fortune in stabling and vet's charges.

Of course if they don't improve, they shoot horse don't they? One official remarked bluntly: "What Electrovet does is tell you in a much shorter time whether a horse is worth saving or not."

The device has wider applications in the animal world. It has been used successfully on stud bulls, dogs and sheep. Lord Innes Ker, a former soldier who saw service in the Falklands, has sold the device to sheikhs in the Middle East for use on racing camels. A top racing camel can be worth £1 million (\$1.61 million).

The Electrovet can be bought, leased or rented for around £8 (\$12) a week. Electrotherapy says. Call-out charge for a vet these days is around the £25 mark, which would seem to make the electrical outsider a good, each-way bet — Financial Times feature.

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Uruguay retains S. American soccer title in rough final

BUENOS AIRES (Agencies) — Uruguay retained the South American Cup by beating Chile 1-0 (0-0) Sunday in a final reminiscent of their rough and ignominious passage through the Mexico World Cup finals.

Brazil's World Cup final referee Romualdo Arpi Filho sent off two players from each side as he fought to keep a grip on the volatile match.

Uruguay kept their title after playing just two matches, getting a bye into the semifinals where they beat hosts and world champions Argentina by the same score.

Midfielder Pablo Bengoechea scored the vital goal in the 56th minute, hitting home a rebound from goalkeeper Roberto Rojas after a melee following a corner.

Rojas, arguably the player most responsible for Chile's surprise passage to the final, failed to hold a hard shot from Jose Perdomo and Bengoechea was quick to leap onto the loose ball.

Arpi said Chilean defender Eduardo Gomez off in the 15th minute for a blatant late tackle on

Uruguayan World Cup star Enzo Francescoli.

But 12 minutes later, Francescoli left Uruguay without their most talented player when he was also shown the red card for retaliation after winger Antonio Alzamendi was brought down close to Chile's penalty area.

Three minutes from time, Perdomo and Chile's tough centre-back Fernando Astengo were dismissed for fighting.

Uruguay's ninth title, equalling Argentina's record, was memorable only for the undoubted individual skill of their players.

Chile played the better team football and deserved a different fate, while both sides were guilty of some atrocious fouls.

The final was marked by rough play. Both teams ended the game with only nine men on the field following the first period expulsions.

Chile's Eduardo Gomez and Uruguayan Enzo Francescoli and second period ejection of Uruguay's Jose Perdomo and Chilean Fernando Astengo.

Uruguayan coach Roberto Fleitas described his team's victory as a "well-earned prize for sacrifice, hard work and humility."

Bengoechea, describing his winning goal, said: "I don't know if it was the prettiest of my sports career, but it certainly was the most important."

The match was perhaps the only fitting conclusion to a tournament dominated by cautious, defensive teams.

Two of the most skilled players, Argentine ace Diego Maradona and Colombia's Carlos Valderrama, were relegated to secondary roles with their teams in the third place playoff.

Francescoli could have graced the final with his superb talent but he was caught up in the tense atmosphere created by Uruguay's uncompromising approach.

Uruguay, seeking to make amends for their failure in Mex-

ico, where they fell to Argentina in the second round, made their point.

They are still a force to be reckoned with in world football, but they did little to change their image.

They were, however, more incisive in attack, creating quick counterattacks which might have given them a bigger winning margin but for the poor form of Alzamendi and the no holds barred Chilean defence in which, paradoxically, Rojas was the weak link.

Rojas made his first serious mistake of the tournament in the fourth minute, failing to cut out a high cross and forcing Astengo to make a desperate clearance.

His nervousness was apparent in the way he fumbled other balls.

Chile had their chances to score but Pereira was in good form behind a steady defence well marshalled by World Cup veteran centre-back Nelson Gutierrez.

The Chileans have never won the South American Cup, losing four finals.

Britain agrees to extradite Heysel soccer fans to Belgium

LONDON (R) — Britain's highest court, the House of Lords, Monday granted an application by the Belgian government to extradite 26 English soccer fans accused of manslaughter in a 1985 Brussels stadium riot in which 39 people died.

A panel of five judges — the "Law Lords" — unanimously decided to set aside an order by a lower court last April freeing the 26 accused on technical grounds.

The only way the fans can now avoid extradition is by appealing directly to home secretary (interior minister) Douglas Hurd, who has the final say in extradition proceedings.

Belgian authorities began extradition proceedings following rioting between supporters of the then English football champions Liverpool and the Italian club Juventus at the 1985 European Cup final. Most of the 39 dead were Italians, crushed to death when a wall collapsed.

The riot, which was seen live on television by millions of people around the world, was blamed mainly on the Liverpool fans who tried to invade a part of the stadium occupied by Juventus supporters. English teams have been barred from European competitions ever since.

All 26 accused fans had been on bail until June 30 when their bail was withdrawn and they were taken into custody.

They were identified after painstaking analysis of television footage and police videotapes of the riot by British and Belgian police. The Belgians say the 26 were among the ringleaders of the riot.

France's Charles Mottet took the overall lead from fellow Frenchman Marial Gayant.

On Sunday American Davis Phinney won the 12th stage of the tour while Gayant retained the overall lead in the cycling race.

Phinney, riding with the 7-11 team, won a close sprint to the finish in the 228-kilometre leg from Brive-la-Gaillarde to Bordeaux. Jean-Paul van Poppel of the Netherlands was second with Malcolm Elliott from Britain in third.

The final sprint was marred by a fall involving Michel Vermeire of Belgium and Manuel-Jorge Dominguez of Spain.

Earlier in Sunday's stage, Sean Kelly of Ireland, considered a favourite, was injured in a fall and dropped out of the race.

Kelly, 31, leader of the Kas team, fell with a group of riders at the 57th kilometre. He continued for another 20 kilometres before abandoning just before reaching Sarlat, in the Dordogne.

Tour doctor Gerard Porte said Kelly broke his collar bone in the fall.

A leg injury kept him out of last year's Tour de France and he lost the chance of winning the Tour of Spain in May.

He had an operation for its removal, but the three-week lay-off affected his form for this tour.

Before leaving for Brussels with a heavily strapped shoulder Kelly said: "I shall spend some time resting in Ireland. I want to be right for a tour in Britain next month so that I am in good condition for the world championships later this year."

"I don't know how the accident happened. The road narrowed, and I may have hit someone's wheel."

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Soviet, Romanian athletes reap bulk of gold medals in Zagreb

Chouchounova snatched more golds than the entire American team

ZAGREB, Yugoslavia (AP) — The Soviet Union, sparked by star gymnast Elena Chouchounova, moved Monday into the second week of the World University Games competition with a commanding 15 gold medals.

The 18-year-old star won six golds in the women's competition, while teammate Yuri Korolev took four in men's gymnastics.

Chouchounova alone won more golds than the entire American team. The United States, with five golds, is in third place in the medal count behind the Soviet Union and Romania, which has 11 golds.

The Americans have been disappointed by their performance so far in the games, especially in the swimming events. In 22 swimming finals, they have won only

one individual gold, picked up by 19-year-old Mitzi Kremer of Titusville, Florida, in the women's 100 metres freestyle.

The second week of competition will be highlighted by the start of the track and field events, traditionally the leading sport in the Universiade.

The men's 20-kilometre walk will be the only medal event in the first day of track and field competition.

Chouchounova won her final four golds Sunday night, finishing first in the vault, beam, uneven bars and floor exercise.

Although she did not earn the perfect 10s that won her a gold in the all-around individual standings, she posted a combined total of 19.832 in the vault, 19.938 in the beam and respective scores of 19.925 and 19.988 in the uneven

bars and floor exercises. Romania's Noemi Lung dominated the women's swimming competition and collected her fourth gold Sunday.

An 18-year-old athlete from Bucharest won the women's 200 metres freestyle in 2:00.89 minutes on Sunday.

Swimming finals for the women's 50-metre freestyle, the men's 100-metre butterfly, the men's 100-metre breaststroke, the women's 100-metre freestyle, the men's 800-metre freestyle relay, and the men's team sabre finals in fencing was being held Monday.

Also on Monday, the quarter-finals of the men's and women's basketball and volleyball competition continue, along with the third round of tennis competition.

Mexican boxer clinches super-welterweight crown

BORDEAUX, France (Agencies) — Mexico's Lupe Aquino claimed the World Boxing Council (WBC) super-welterweight title from American Duane Thomas when he outpointed the holder in their scheduled 12 round fight on Sunday night.

It was Thomas's first defence of the title he won when he stopped Ugandan John "the Beast" Mugabi in Las Vegas last December and clinched the title left vacant by compatriot Thomas Hearns.

The California-based Mexican's brute force and tireless punches ultimately proved too much for Thomas's precision hits and technical prowess. Their fight, originally scheduled for Las Vegas last April, had been postponed until Sunday night after Thomas suffered a rib injury.

The challenger lost no time in taking the offensive when he injured Thomas above the left eye in the first round and sent him crashing onto the canvas in the second.

Bouncing back, Thomas regained some initiative with well-timed straight hits and uppercuts to look poised for possible victory on points by the fifth, as his opponent seemed to tire.

But the 24-year-old Mexican, who has lost only two of his 33 fights so far and knocked out 23 of his opponents, continued to punch hard and fast and began to miss less often.

Aiming for Thomas' head he locked him in several embraces and was warned by the referee for focusing on the back of his head.

Aquino raised his arms in victory several times before the bout ended, while Thomas, who had so far only lost to Buster Drayton, never really assumed the role of a confident champion.

The Mexican drove the 26-year-old defender into the ropes in the 11th round, and again boxed him onto the ground in the 12th. Although Thomas quickly got up to finish the match on his feet, it was too late for him to save anything.

"I put together some good combinations, especially leading with my left, despite the heat in the arena," Aquino said after the fight at Bordeaux's Robert-Bretes Stadium. "It's a great feeling to be champion, and I owe it to my family, who have really helped me."

Thomas received \$150,000 for the fight. Aquino earned \$50,000.

Williams teammates and bitter personal rivals Nigel Mansell of Britain and Nelson Piquet of Brazil are threatening to turn the 1987 World Drivers' Championship into a private duel after dominating the British Grand Prix.

The pair finished first and second respectively in the last two world title races — at Le Castellet, France, last week and Silverstone on Sunday — and now share second place in the championship standings on 30 points, one behind Lotus driver Ayrton Senna of Brazil.

But their majestic control of both Grand Prix, in which Mansell's grit brought him hard-earned triumphs ahead of the twice former world champion, suggests they have the power to

go on and repeat their performance at the West German Grand Prix in two weeks time.

Mansell, who won on Sunday by slipping past Piquet two laps from home, attributed his win to the fabulous support of a huge British crowd urging him to his 10th career win and third of the season.

But a more realistic appraisal came from Senna who, like the rest of the field, was lapped by the Williams pair and finished third. "We could not match them for performance or fuel efficiency. I just tried to hang in there," he said.

As Senna and Lotus teammate Satoru Nakajima of Japan, who came fourth, were powered by the same Honda engines as Mansell and Piquet, the Brazilian's words underlined the overall supremacy of the Williams team.

World champion Alain Prost of France, still seeking a record 28th career win, admitted last week that his McLaren was no longer invincible in races against the "two perfect cars and two perfect drivers" of the Williams team.

Prost's Silverstone race began with him charging past them to lead at the first corner, but he was back in third place by the end of the lap and finally retired with electrical problems.

With Prost and Senna failing to break their stranglehold, Mansell and Piquet's personal war has become the focus of the title race. It was known for some time that the pair were not on friendly terms but Piquet criticised his teammate's driving last week at a London press conference.

Kuwait, Indonesia refuse to play Israel at World University Games

ZAGREB, Yugoslavia (AP) — Kuwait and Indonesia have refused to play Israel in the men's volleyball tournament at the World University Games, organisers said Monday.

Both matches have been registered 3-0 in Israel's favour. According to the International University Sports Federation (FISU) rules, the teams that re-

fuse to play scheduled matches must be disqualified from the tournament, a spokesman for the organising committee added.

However, the FISU executive council decided Monday that both Indonesia and Kuwait will be allowed to continue competition in the qualifying Group N, which also includes Sri Lanka.

Organisers said that the boycott was politically motivated. They said they have heard unofficial reports that Sri Lanka will also refuse to play their match against Israel, which is scheduled for Tuesday.

FISU council sources said the final decision in case of boycotts rests with the council itself, and the decision here was to let the teams continue.

Dutch cyclist secures Tour de France 13th leg

PAU, France (Agencies) — Erik Brukink of the Netherlands won the 219 kilometre 13th stage of the Tour de France from Bayonne on Monday.

Frenchman Jean-Francois Bernard came second, while Colombia's Pablo Vilches and Luis Herrera were third and fourth respectively.

France's Charles Mottet took the overall lead from fellow Frenchman Marial Gayant.

On Sunday American Davis Phinney won the 12th stage of the tour while Gayant retained the overall lead in the cycling race.

Phinney, riding with the 7-11 team, won a close sprint to the finish in the 228-kilometre leg from Brive-la-Gaillarde to Bordeaux. Jean-Paul van Poppel of the Netherlands was second with Malcolm Elliott from Britain in third.

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"I don't know how the accident happened. The road narrowed, and I may have hit someone's wheel."

Former U.S. ambassador starts flight reminiscent of 1942 airlift across Siberia

MOSCOW (AP) — Former U.S. ambassador Thomas J. Watson Jr. flew out of Moscow on Monday on a flight recreating a 1942 journey across Siberia.

Watson, 73, is commemorating the U.S. airlift to the Soviet Union during World War II carrying military ammunition and other supplies. He plans to stop

in his Lear 53 Jet in several Siberian towns. They include Syktyvkar, Novosibirsk, Irkutsk, Yakutsk and Anadyr. He plans to arrive at Elmendorf U.S. air base near Anchorage, Alaska, on July 17.

Watson then will fly to Great Falls, Montana, and Washington, D.C. He set out from West-

chester County, New York, airport last week.

Watson, who headed the U.S. embassy in Moscow from 1979-81, was a pilot aboard a B-24 "Liberator" bomber that opened

a supply route from Great Falls across Alaska and Siberia to Moscow in November 1942.

Yesterday's Italian aces facing unemployment

ROME (R) — Five members of Italy's 1982 World Cup winning team are facing unemployment next season and several other international soccer stars currently in Italy are still looking for a team to play for.

"There is a whole team of famous unemployed players," said La Gazzetta Dello Sport newspaper.

Paolo Rossi, the top scorer at the 1982 World Cup finals in Spain which earned him the nickname "Pablito," said in an interview on Sunday that his only offer for the next season had come from a Turkish First-Division club.

Rossi, 31, who played for Verona last season, was plagued by cartilage problems for most of the year.

La Gazzetta said Rossi, stopper Claudio Gentile, Gabrieli Orioli, Marco Tardelli and Giuseppe Dosena were the World Cup winning men looking for a job before the Italian end-of-season transfer market closes in three days time.

Roma striker Roberto Pruzzo, 32, is also out of a job despite being top First Division goalscorer two years ago, although Second-Division Genoa are said to be keen to sign him.

Gentile, 34, and Orioli, 35, were employed by Fiorentina in 1986-87 but failed to find regular team places. Tardelli, 33, was with Internazionale and Dosena, 29, played for Torino.

"They were the kings of the stadiums, hailed as champions and envied," the paper commented. "Now they are looking for a new boss just to carry on playing."

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Cinema OPERA

Tel: 675573

HAPPY LIFE

Performances 3.30, 6.15, 8.30, 10.30

Cinema PLAZA

Tel: 675571

ABOUT LAST NIGHT

Performances 3.30, 6.00, 8.30, 10.30

Cinema RAGHADAN

Tel: 622198

ESCAPE FROM HELL HOLE

Performances 12.15, 3.15, 5.45, 8.15

Chun drops party aides from cabinet, names new premier

SEOUL (R) — President Chun Doo Hwan Monday carried out a major cabinet reshuffle, naming a new prime minister and relieving ministers who doubled as officers of South Korea's ruling party.

The Rejig, involving changes at the key interior, defence and education ministries, followed Mr. Chun's July 1 pledge to act impartially in organising free, fair elections for his successor.

The South Korean strongman ruler has pushed into accepting a package of democratic reforms after nearly three weeks of street disturbances last month against what protesters called his "military dictatorship."

The head of Mr. Chun's new "supra-partisan" cabinet is Mr. Kim Chung-Yul, air force chief-of-staff in the mid-1950s under Syngman Rhee, then defence minister and later ambassador to Washington (1963-64).

Mr. Kim, 69, replaces academic Lee Han-Key who took over the reins of government on May 26 this year at the height of a scandal over the death under police torture of a 21-year-old student.

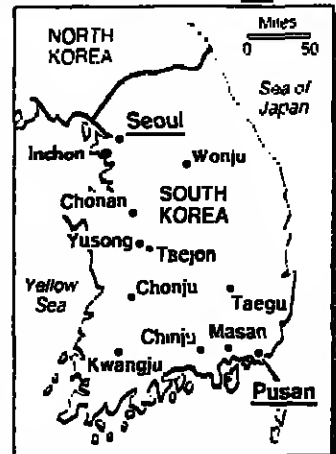
Another man appointed that day, Interior Minister Koh Kun, was relieved of his post Monday.

after less than 50 days in office. Mr. Koh was one of five ministers who stood down to concentrate on their roles in the ruling Democratic Justice Party. The others were Mr. Lee Se-Ki (sports), Mr. Lee Dai-Soon (communications), Mr. Lee Tae-Sup (science and technology) and Mr. Cho Ki Sang (political affairs).

One man with a dual role, high-profile Trade Minister Rha Woong-Bae, chose to give up his party post and stay in the government.

Defence Minister Lee Ki-Baek, who accompanied Mr. Chun to Rangoon in October, 1983, as chairman of the joint chiefs of staff and suffered cruel injuries in the bomb explosion that killed 17 senior South Korean officials, stands down after 18 months in the job.

Mr. Lee is replaced by another former general, Chung Ho-Yong, who in 1979 helped Mr. Chun stage the coup that was to make



him president. Mr. Chung briefly served as interior minister this year until he stood down on May 26 to accept partial blame for the student torture cover-up.

A presidential spokesman told reporters on Monday night: "The reshuffle was aimed at renewing the cabinet's image under President Chun's plan ... to oversee fairly the political calendar and carry out the pressing task of genuine democratic development."

After long resisting all opposition demands for free elections, Mr. Chun on July 1 bowed to the

inevitable and announced that the man who succeeds him next February would be chosen by direct, popular vote.

He also released over 500 jailed dissidents, restored civil rights to 2,300 political offenders including charismatic dissident Kim Dae-Jung and pledged respect of human rights and press freedom.

The opposition is having some difficulty in coping with the sudden government about-face. Mr. Kim Dae-Jung and his political twin, hardline opposition party leader Kim Young-Sam, have so far failed to settle on a single presidential candidate to challenge Mr. Chun's chosen heir, ex-General Roh Tae-Wood.

On Monday the Kims ran into more trouble when 200 dissidents stormed the opposition party headquarters during a Kim Young-Sam news conference and demanded he refuse talks with the government on electoral reform until all political detainees were freed.

Both opposition leaders talked to the protesters, many of them students and workers released last week under Mr. Chun's amnesty.

3 policemen injured in N. Ireland clashes

PORTADOWN, Northern Ireland (R) — Three policemen were hurt in Northern Ireland early Monday in clashes with Protestants, thousands of whom were due to join marches to commemorate a 300-year-old victory over the Catholics.

A police spokesman, reporting on trouble across the British province, said 10 people were arrested. Police used plastic bullets to disperse youths who threw stones and petrol bombs at them in Belfast. Other incidents were in Limavady and Killeel.

Police launched a huge security operation amid fears the outlawed Irish Republican Army (IRA) could launch a bomb attack on one of the 19 scheduled parades.

"We will have massive security in force," a police spokesman said. "We are expecting an upsurge in terrorist activity and telling people to be on their guard."

Fifty-nine people have been killed this year as the IRA fights to oust the British and reunite Northern Ireland with the Irish Republic. This is just two short of the death toll for 1986.

Tensions are traditionally high

in Northern Ireland during the summer marching season when Protestants commemorate the victory of Protestant King William of Orange over England's last Catholic monarch, James II, at the Battle of the Boyne in 1690.

The province's Catholic Nationalist minority bitterly resents the annual Orange marches through Catholic areas, seeing them as a show of strength by the Protestant loyalist majority.

The market town of Portadown, with a predominantly Protestant population but two areas where Catholics live, has often in the past been a major flashpoint.

Protestant anger was fuelled last year by an Anglo-Irish accord which they saw as a British government sellout because it gave Dublin a say in the daily running of the province.

A 19-month campaign of parliamentary boycotts, strikes and street protests has failed to dislodge the accord and unionist leaders representing the Protestant majority now say they are ready to hold "talks about talks" with the British government.

Australian opposition in turmoil after poll defeat

SYDNEY (R) — Australia's conservative opposition was in turmoil Monday, just 36 hours after the election triumph of Prime Minister Bob Hawke.

The Liberal Party is heading for a leadership brawl while its recalcitrant election partner, the National Party, faces rebellion within its ranks.

Mr. Hawke, the first Labour Party leader to win a third successive term, also has some internal squabbles over a possible cabinet reshuffle, but party sources said they were minor compared with the opposition's problems.

Mr. Hawke, who won the elections on an platform calling for economic continuity and restraint, has said he would make no major cabinet changes and

treasurer Paul Keating would retain his portfolio.

The new government Monday received firm support from the powerful Australian Council of Trade Unions (ACTU).

ACTU executive John MacBean said members would continue a policy of wage restraint, dismissing fears expressed by business leaders over possible union action following Mr. Hawke's victory.

Financial markets reacted favourably to the election result and the Australian dollar firmed to 71.25 U.S. cents from Friday's closing 70.75 cents.

The share market was also buoyant. Dealers said the election outcome removed any lingering uncertainty and brought a flood of overseas buying.

Fijian forces accused of frustrating democracy plan

SUVA (R) — Leaders of Fiji's deposed coalition government accused security forces Monday of trying to torpedo attempts to restore democracy to the South Pacific island state.

They said the arrest and detention for 24 hours of former Foreign Minister Krishna Datt was the latest in a series of incidents designed to frustrate the aims of the constitutional review committee set up by the Governor-General, Ratu Sir Penaia Ganilau.

Mr. Datt, 42, was released Sunday night after a day in military custody, his wife said. He was arrested at his Suva home late on Saturday by a group of soldiers who surrounded the house.

The army issued no statement on Mr. Datt's detention. He was

one of four representatives of the Labour/National Federation Party coalition ousted in the May 14 coup invited to take part in the Review Committee's discussions.

Coalition sources said Sunday night, before Mr. Datt's release, that it was now extremely unlikely that the four would take part in a committee meeting that was to be held later Monday.

They had agreed to join the 17-member committee after Ganilau changed its terms of reference to the coalition's satisfaction, the sources said.

Ousted Prime Minister Timoci Bavadra said he would meet the governor-general and "tell him straight" of his party's anger over Mr. Datt's unexplained detention.

U.S. aborts missile flight over Pacific

SANTA BARBARA, California (R) — The U.S. Air Force destroyed an unarmed intercontinental Minuteman-3 missile in flight over the Pacific when problems developed, a spokesman said.

The aborted flight was the second Minuteman fired from Vandenberg Air Force Base to be destroyed within three weeks.

Air force spokesman Master Sgt. Bruce Zielsdorf said the \$5.3 million missile was blown up by a signal from launch controllers after they determined the craft was not performing properly.

"The launch was successful but the mission was aborted by command destruct signal," Zielsdorf said. "The launch control people have determined that there was an anomaly in the flight and with our primary concern being safety, the action was taken."

He said missile was destroyed some time after its launch at 6:35 a.m. Sunday (13:35 GMT) and was above the ocean. No danger was posed to any persons or property, he said.

"The launch was the 129th in the air force's continuing routine tests of capabilities of Minuteman missiles," Zielsdorf said. The missile was to have been monitored by a tracking station on Kwajalein Atoll in the mid-Pacific, he said.

The last firing of a Minuteman-3 from Vandenberg, on June 25, was also aborted, he said.

Refugees turn up in fog on Canadian coast

HALIFAX, Nova Scotia (R) — When 174 people claiming to be refugees from India arrived in dense fog in a tiny fishing village it was the biggest thing that had ever happened there, residents said.

"All these people coming to town in the middle of the night makes you think you are hallucinating or have taken something before you went to bed," Irene Goreham, a resident of the Nova Scotia village of Charlville, said Sunday. Charlville resident Richard MacAdams told Reuters the group looked surprisingly well-dressed and rested and "not worse for the wear."

"They didn't look to be poor people, they were well dressed. Some of them had turbans on their heads ... and some had sort of suit-type jackets ... they looked to be clean shaven."

"It's the biggest event in this community since I was born," said MacAdams.

Canadian immigration officials have taken the group away for medical examinations and questioning and they are investigating reports that a second boatload of refugees, possibly of women and children, is on its way to Canada.

The group earlier had been identified in press reports as Tamils, but that was not officially verified, immigration officials said.

Police said they have arrested two men in connection with the refugees' arrival and are tracking a ship that is believed to have dropped them off.

Officials said they have been on the lookout for a ship since Friday after hearing that a vessel carrying Tamil refugees may have been bound for Canada but was hampered by the fog.

Last year 155 Tamils landed in

Newfoundland after being dropped off the coast by a freighter that brought them from West Germany for a fee.

Canada's conservative government admitted the refugees despite a storm of protest that erupted after it became clear they had lied about their point of embarkation.

When the refugees began streaming into Charlville, a community of about 80 people, early Sunday, startled villagers called police.

They distributed tea and food to the refugees who were gathered on lawns, until police arrived. The townspeople, who said they had found dirty clothing and plastic bags marked with West German names abandoned on a shore, said many of the refugees were dressed in new clothes.

1964, we broke relations with the U.S.

"As far as I know, President Delvalle's government has no intention of doing that. What is true is that no Panamanian accepts external interference in his own affairs ..."

Earlier Sunday, opposition leaders said the violence used by security forces to crush protests was "irresponsible, unjustified and stupid."

The country's leading prelate also condemned the violence, calling it "beyond all limits of proportion and justice."

"It is inconceivable that white handkerchiefs were confronted with bullets, clubs and teargas," said a communiqué issued by the "Civic Crusade," a loose alliance of business and opposition leaders.

The Crusade has become the driving force behind protests against Gen. Noriega.

Asked about concerns that U.S.-Panama relations were at their lowest level ever, Gen. Noriega said, "this is not true. In

Thatcher feared losing elections — book

LONDON (R) — Britain's steely Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher became querulous and rattled and scolded her ministers for looking scruffy when told she could lose last month's general elections, according to a book published Monday.

Campaign the Selling of the Prime Minister, by political journalist Rodney Tyler, says Mrs. Thatcher was shocked into revitalising her Conservative Party's campaign two weeks before the elections when her daughter Carol told her: "You'd better get your act together, or start packing."

The book says a raging toothache made the prime minister even more irritable a week before the elections in which she was

returned for a record third consecutive term with a majority of 101 seats in the 650-seat House of Commons.

Opinion polls had put the Conservatives well ahead of the opposition Labour Party for months before the elections were called. But Labour began to narrow that lead when it caught Mrs. Thatcher off-guard with a slick, well-organised campaign.

"It had, according to Carol Thatcher, come as a considerable shock to her mother to realise, for the first time ... that she could lose the election," the book says.

"There was undoubtedly a sense of self-recrimination in her for having been complacent ... more importantly, her despair stemmed from a sense of being

isolated, of having no one to lean on, a feeling that she had to do everything herself," it says.

Mrs. Thatcher, once dubbed by Moscow the "iron lady" for the rigidity of her views, later ordered three cabinet ministers to tidy themselves up after she had a meeting with Cecil Parkinson, then a disgraced former senior minister who has since rejoined the cabinet.

"Nigel Lawson's hair is far too long, as is Kenneth Clarke's. And what is Nicholas Ridley doing wearing an old cardigan," the book quotes Parkinson as saying.

"Suddenly Labour are the ones in smart suits, and we look like the scruffy party of protest," he said.

59 missing after Filipino ferry sinks in rough seas

MANILA (R) — Rescue boats and a helicopter searched Monday for 59 people missing after an overloaded ferry sank two days ago in rough seas off the central Philippines, drowning at least eight passengers.

Three U.S. Peace Corps workers on the St. Christopher won praise for swimming three miles to shore through giant waves whipped up by a nearby typhoon and alerting coastguards, who helped save 130 people on board.

"If it had not been for their efforts, many more lives would have been lost," local radio station employee Mario Opeta told Reuters by telephone after talking to survivors.

The Philippines News Agency (PNA) said four naval patrol boats, a helicopter and commercial craft were still combing the sea between Negros and Siquijor islands, but Opeta said rescuers did not think they would find anyone alive.

Police patrol Dhaka after violence

DHAKA, Bangladesh (AP) — Police swinging batons charged 10,000 people protesting a law giving the military more power in local governments, and witnesses said more than 100 were injured.

Government opponents called a general strike Monday to protest the law.

Many shops were closed Monday as workers stayed home to honour the eight-hour general strike, which virtually shut down the city. Truckloads of police dressed in riot gear patrolled the capital.

Although the city was generally quiet, witnesses said police used bamboo truncheons to disperse a group of picketers in Dhaka's central financial district.

Eight protesters were arrested. Witnesses also said picketers set a car on fire in the western Sakrahad residential area.

An opposition eight-party alliance called the general strike to protest the new law and the clash with police on Sunday.

Witnesses said more than 40 people were detained during the clash, but police said Monday that 19 were arrested.

The 330-member parliament, dominated by President Hussain Muhammad Ershad's Jatiya Party, passed the law Sunday. Soon afterward, a crowd gathered at the city's main square and began a march toward the parliament.

The protesters marched about a mile before encountering a police cordon about three miles (5 kilometres) south of the parliament building.

Police said they charged the demonstrators after the crowd attacked officers. Witnesses said, however, that the procession was peaceful and police moved in when the marchers tried to pass the cordon.

Sunday's demonstration was the highest anti-government protest since Nov. 10. Demonstrators clashed with police after Gen. Ershad lifted 4½ years of martial law following parliament's passing a bill absolving his government of legal responsibility for the period.

The law passed Sunday allows the government to appoint a military representative to each of the nation's 64 district councils. The move will give the military a voice in local administration and development programmes.

Two former cabinet members — Abdus Samad Azad, the former foreign minister, and Abdul Mannan, the former home minister — were among those injured during the march on parliament, witnesses told the Associated Press.

COLUMNS 768

Japan has more billionaires than U.S.

NEW YORK (AP) — Japan now has more billionaires than the United States, and the richest of them is probably the world's wealthiest man, an American business magazine says. In its July 27 issue, Forbes magazine says Japan, a nation with half the population of the United States has 22 probable billionaires and it "believes there are many more." In its list of the 400 richest Americans last year, Forbes counted 21 U.S. billionaires. The wealthiest Japanese, says, is Yoshiaki Tsutsumi, who has a fortune estimated at \$21 billion. The richest American, Sam Moore Walton, founder of Wal-Mart Stores, has \$4.5 billion, Forbes says. Tsutsumi oversees the Seibu Railway Group, Japan's largest landowner, whose assets include rail lines, resorts, golf courses, ski slopes, a professional baseball team and Prince Hotels, one of the world's biggest hotel chains. Two other Japanese are richer than Sam Walton, Forbes says. Takechiro Mori, Tokyo's biggest landlord, has a net worth of \$16 billion. Shigeru Kohayashi, head of the Shuwa Company, which owns office buildings, has a net worth of \$6 billion. Forbes notes that 14 of the 22 Japanese billionaires owe the bulk of their fortunes to real estate, "no surprise, given the incredible inflation in Japanese real estate."

Van hijacker escapes with \$1m

TOKYO (R) — A masked man armed with a hammer hijacked a bank security van in Osaka and escaped with 150 million yen (\$1 million) in cash, police said. They said the man smashed the van's window, ordered the two men inside to get out, then drove off. Police in the central Japanese city later found the van near the robbery scene. Last November, three men robbed a security van in central Tokyo and escaped with more than 300 million yen (\$2 million) in cash. Police have yet to make an arrest in the case.

China invents pillow to cure headaches

HONG KONG (R) — Suffer from headaches, insomnia or high blood pressure? A herbal pillow just invented in China could provide a cure. Eighty-two per cent of 763 patients who slept on the pillow, stuffed with herbal medicines including wild chrysanthemum, said their condition improved, the China News Service reported. A first export shipment of 100,000 pillows, invented by a pharmaceutical firm in Xian, is on its way to Singapore and orders are pouring in from Japan and Malaysia, the agency said. It did not give the price.

Italian spends seven months in cave

ANCONA, Italy (R) — An Italian who lived alone in a cave for seven months learned that he had set a world record for complete isolation — but was convinced it was still March and thought the news was a joke. Organisers said Maurizio Montalbini, who went into the Frasassi Caves near the town of Ancona 210 days ago on Dec. 14, had lost track of time and thought it was March 3 until he was woken by a Morse code signal that it was July 12, Montalbini, 33, wrote the words "thrilling but a debatable joke" on a piece of card and held it up to a television camera monitoring his attempt. The previous record of 203 days was set in Texas in 1972 by Frenchman Michel Siffre. Montalbini insisted on having the date repeated over an emergency telephone line he used for the first time and replied: "But we aren't at carnival, this isn't carnival." He also put on a pair of socks and changed his overalls. A medical team is due to meet Montalbini in his six-square-metre underground chamber and bring him to the surface on Tuesday when he will be taken to hospital for tests, organisers said. Montalbini has spent his isolation reading, learning languages and making notes on his experiences.

African students protest AIDS test

NEW DELHI (AP) — Police detained 79 African students after they set up roadblocks in the diplomatic enclave of the Indian capital to protest compulsory AIDS tests for foreign students. Members of the African Students Association gathered outside the Mauritian High Commission to present their case to P. Newoor, the high commissioner, who also is the dean of the African Diplomatic Corps. Ajay Kumar, assistant commissioner of police, said 79 African students, including eight women, were detained for violating orders against public assembly. The African students had earlier protested against the mandatory testing of foreign students for acquired immune deficiency syndrome (AIDS), which was imposed last year. The disease destroys the body's immune system, and is invariably fatal.

Papal play to become a movie

KRAKOW, Poland, (AP) — A play about married life written by a little-known Polish Roman Catholic priest 28 years ago is becoming a major motion picture this year. What's attracting more-than-usual interest in the project is that the priest, Karol Wojtyla, went on to become Pope John Paul II. In Front of the Jeweller's Shop, a story about three couples as viewed from the unchanging perspective of a shopkeeper in Krakow, is being filmed on location in the heart of the medieval centre of Krakow. Crowds of smartly dressed young Poles jammed behind barricades outside historic St. Mary's Church this week to view the filming during the evening hours on the southern Polish city's huge market square. The film's star, veteran American movie actor Burt Lancaster, sporting a beard and drab black suit for his role as the jeweller, repeated a scene in which he looks up the shop as onlookers snapped pictures with pocket cameras. Among the other well-known names appearing in the Italian-American-Polish production are British actor Ben Cross and actress Olivia Hussey and Poland's leading film star, Daniel Olbrychski. The movie is directed by Michael Anderson, a Canadian. Shooting in Krakow began last week and is expected to last four weeks. The cast then travels to Toronto for five weeks to complete the filming there. The chief producer is the Italian television network RAI, and the movie should be released in the United States and Europe next year.

Skip Hawaii, go directly to jail

FREMONT, California (R) — Police set up a phoney travel agency, hung exotic posters on the walls, piped in music, and then arrested 28 criminal suspects who showed up to claim free trips to Hawaii. Police mailed out fliers to people sought under arrest warrants, inviting them to visit the Se. on Seas resort network this week to claim expenses-paid trips. Police spokesman Dennis Sartariano said 28 people fell for the sting operation. He said the suspects were greeted by undercover officers in colourful Hawaiian shirts and asked to fill out questionnaires confirming their identities. That accomplished, the arrests were made. Sartariano said the charges ranged from drunken driving to armed robbery.

Dentists refuse to treat AIDS victims

TEL AVIV (AP) — An Israel radio reporter posing as an AIDS patient found all the dentists he visited refused to treat victims of the deadly disease, the radio has said. Israel Radio said its reporter visited 25 dentists and presented himself as an AIDS patient. All refused to treat him or even refer him to other dentists, the radio said. The report did not name the dentists or the reporter, but a duty editor at the radio said the report was by correspondent Yaron Enosh, who was currently doing military reserve duty and not available for comment. The Health Ministry said the dentists' refusal to treat the journalist violated ministry instructions on how victims of AIDS, the acquired immune deficiency syndrome, should be treated. "The issue of AIDS is raising non-medical reactions among the dentists. The ministry plans to conduct study programmes for dentists at public clinics and also for private doctors," ministry spokesman Shmuel Algrabi told the Associated Press.

GOREN BRIDGE

BY CHARLES GOREN
AND OMAR SEARIF
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WHICH FINESSE?

Both vulnerable. South deals.

NORTH
♠ 7 5 3
♥ 4 2
♦ A K Q 10 8 6
♣ 7 6

WEST EAST
♠ J 10 9 6 ♠ 8 4
♥ K A 7 ♥ J 10 9 6 5 3
♦ 7 3 ♦ J
♣ K 9 6 2 ♣ J 10 8 2

SOUTH
♠ A K Q 2
♥ A Q
♦ 9 8 4 3
♣ A 4

The bidding:
South West North East
2 NT Pass 4 ♠ Pass
4 NT Pass 5 ♠ Pass
5 ♣ Pass 6 NT Pass
Pass Pass

Opening lead: Jack of ♠

Here's a chance to demonstrate your card-play technique. Cover the East-West cards with your thumbs and decide how you are going to tackle the hand.

After your two no trump opening bid, partner asks for aces and kings via the Gerber convention, then settles in six no trump when he learns your side is missing two kings.

After the opening lead, you can count 11 tricks. The 12th can come either from a 3-3 spade break or a successful finesse in one of the rounded suits (hearts and clubs). What's your first move?

Win the spade and cash another high spade. If both opponents follow, play off just enough diamond tricks to exhaust all the defenders' diamonds. Then cash your remaining high spade to see if the suit breaks 3-3. Unfortunately, on the third spade East discards a heart. What next?

Claim your contract before you make a mistake! If the opponents insist on your playing out the hand, simply throw West in with his remaining spade. He is down to nothing but hearts and clubs, so he will have to concede the 12th trick to you in whichever suit he elects to lead.

Should East show out on the second spade, you will have to rely on one of the two finesses, combined with the minuscule possibility of a squeeze. Therefore, it is slightly better to cross to dummy with a diamond and take the club finesse first. If it loses, win your return, run your diamonds and, since you won't be sure of the position, take the heart finesse.

IRAQI-JORDANIAN LAND TRANSPORT COMPANY TENDER

The Iraqi-Jordanian Land Transport Co. Invites bids for the supply of the following:-

- 150 truck-tractors.
- 150 semi-trailers (general cargo).
- 2 truck-tractors (heavy cargo).
- 4 low bed semi-trailers (heavy cargo).
- 15 semi-trailer/tank (vegetable oil).
- 15 semi-trailer (car carriers).

A copy of the tender terms and specifications may be purchased from the company's main offices in Jabal Amman, opposite to the Tunisian embassy for the sum of JD 100 non-refundable.

All offers are to be submitted by 12.00 hours on Saturday Aug. 15, 1987 accompanied by a bid bond for 5% of offer value.

Director General
Eng. Jamil Ibrahim